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The South Slesvig Problem

BY KNUD FABRICIUS

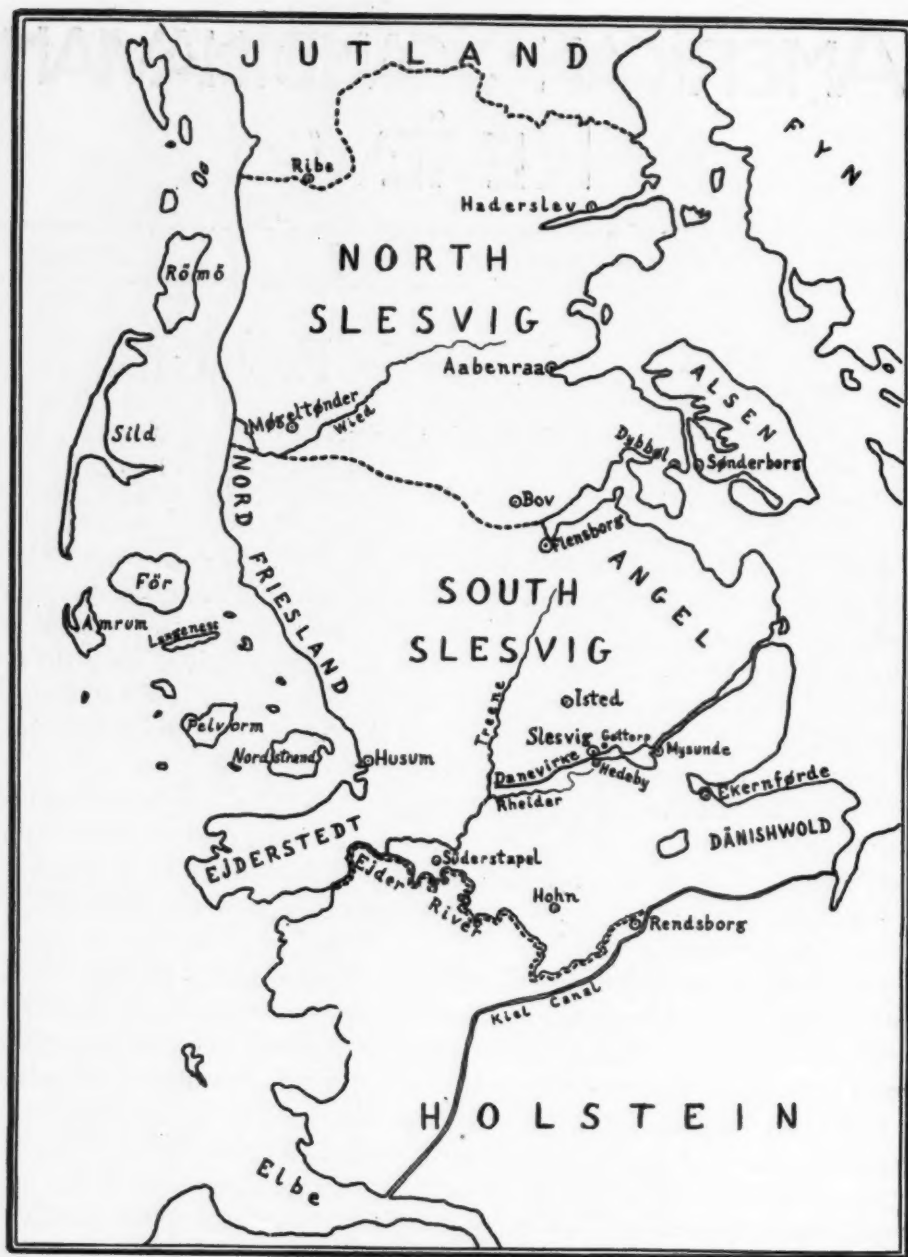
Photographs from Danish Information Office

THE PROBLEM OF SOUTH SLESVIG continues to be a source of real excitement to the Danes as became again apparent at the recent elections. Aside from those, many unfortunately, who refuse to trouble themselves about it, either because they do not wish to disturb their ingrained pattern of thought or to be dislodged from their habitual placidity, the part of the population which does take an interest in the matter may be divided into two groups.

For the first of these groups the question is one of a brother in need, a brother who, to be sure, has forgotten his mother tongue, but who in flesh and blood, in mind and skin, is of the same lineage and who now, seeing clearly the error of his ways, wishes to renew the ties with his kinsmen to the north.

To the other half of responsible Danes the people of South Slesvig are foreign, because they speak an alien language and hitherto have had a different political outlook. Their recent change of attitude, therefore, has to be regarded as sheer opportunism—a weak foundation on which to build. In the opinion of this group, the people of South Slesvig should, in any event, submit to a long period of trial, before they can become worthy of joining again with the Danes, and even if the test should prove favorable, no reward should be promised them, partly in order not to create steady anxiety along the border and partly not to irritate the great neighbor to the south.

The difference in these two points of view rests clearly on divergent conceptions of what is required to belong to a nation. The opponents of admission, now or later, of the people of South Slesvig into the state of



SOUTH SLESVIG

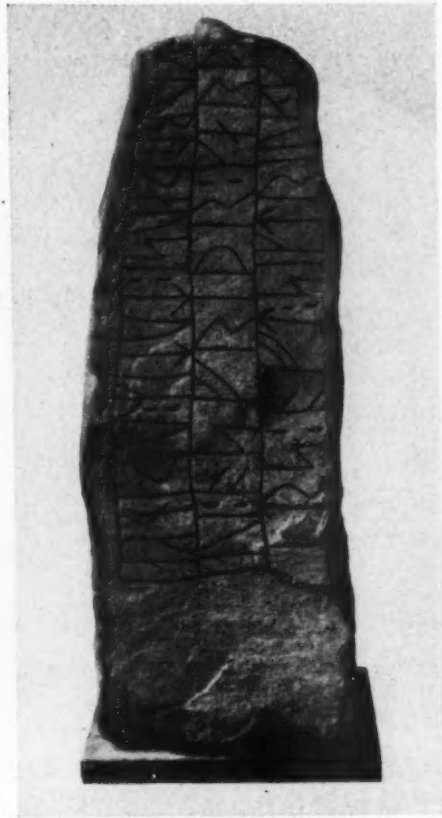
From a map by Frederick J. Pohl

Denmark, place the whole emphasis on mentality. If a portion of a small country once has decided to join a larger nation, this decision is, in the eyes of the opposition, irrevocable. The fact that the people thus incorporated in all other respects may differ from their new associates is of no decisive importance.

The supporters of a union with South Slesvig, on the other hand, do not contest the importance of national self-determination. They do believe, however, that there are other factors to be taken into consideration, such as geographical situation, economic conditions, descent and habits of mind, customs and manners, and that only on the basis of likeness in these does the right to national self-determination have a natural application. In any case, argue the supporters, each generation of population is able to reach political decisions only on its own behalf. Should the succeeding generation become convinced that their fathers have failed by shutting their eyes to the natural ties that bind a people's countless generations together, the children should be free to take up their elders' decisions for scrutiny and revision and knit again together the threads that at that time were brutally sundered.

And now, what are the known facts about Slesvig?

South Slesvig is the country lying between the southern border of Denmark (the border of 1920) and Holstein; in other words, the land stretching from the Skelbæk to the Ejder. The eastern part consists of fertile, rolling country, such as is found on the Danish islands or in east Jutland, while the middle portion makes one think of the heaths in central Jutland. Only along the western strip of South Slesvig does one encounter a scenery strange to that of Denmark's . . . fat and green



THE GOTTORP STONE. ABOUT
A.D. 950

*"Asfrid, Odinkar's daughter, erected
this stone for Sigtryg, her son and
the son of Gnupa."*



DANEVIRKE STONE. ABOUT A.D. 1000

"King Sven erected this stone for Skarða his courtier who went west (i.e. to England) but is now dead at Hedeby."

about eight miles wide, as well as the outlying islands along the coast, is inhabited by Frisians, who still speak their own language, a language closer to Dutch and English than to German. Thus it is in this region, with its strange marshland scenery, that we also find this peculiar population (only 20-30,000) which seems to have immigrated in prehistoric times. With this exception then, the people living north of the Sli-Danevirke line are of Scandinavian descent. German scholars have tried to prove that prior to historic times, German tribes inhabited this region, tribes among which particularly the so-called Angles have been named. To this there is only one answer: Nothing certain is known about the population in prehistoric times, as there are no written sources to rely upon, and consequently all scientific theories have to be regarded, in the last instance, as guesswork. For that matter, even if it could be proved that Angles lived in South Slesvig, one can hardly call them Germans, as the notion of "German" does not date further back

marshlands which are characteristic also of the islands of Sild, Fjør, Amrom, Pelworm, etc. South Slesvig supports itself mainly on agriculture and cattle raising. It has but one large city, Flensburg, of about seventy thousand inhabitants, which relies on trade and shipping rather than on industries. On the whole, very few factories are found in South Slesvig, which also in this respect is more similar to Denmark—aside from Copenhagen—than to Holstein in the south.

Up to a line running from Ekernførde to Mysunde and from there along the breadth of the Sli to the city of Slesvig and finally from this point along Danevirke to Husum the population of South Slesvig is, in mind and skin, Nordic. Above this line, however, along the North Sea, a stretch of land

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At the Eider River, ancient boundary between Denmark and Germany, probably about A.D. 360 Prince Offa of the Angles, defended Jutland in single combat against the Saxons. He was a hero of Old English folklore and literature. Beowulf describes Offa as "the leader of heroes, of all mankind in my knowledge the best, between the seas, of the race of man." Over the portal of the fort at Rendsborg on the Eider River King Christian V of Denmark (1670-1699) placed the famous stone photographed above bearing the legend "The Eider Boundary of the Roman Empire." The stone is still preserved in the arsenal in Copenhagen.

than to the ninth century when, during partition negotiations between the sons of Louis the Pious the difference between German and French language was first recognized.

But, one might ask, has not the population north of the Sli-Danevirke line since the year 800, with the start of historic times, undergone such changes through immigration from Germany that it has acquired wholly different characteristics? This is to a certain extent true of the provincial towns in South Slesvig, because they have, as do most cities, survived through receiving new blood from the outside. In the rural regions, however, the situation is entirely different. While there are no complete records of immigration in ancient times, one finds, on the basis of a national census taken in South Slesvig in the middle of the nineteenth century that only in the two rural districts nearest to the city of Slesvig does the majority of the farmers have German names; in all other rural communities Danish names predominate. The rural population of South Slesvig is without question therefore a chip off the ancient



DANEVIRKE

A section of the ancient fortifications of South Slesvig.

block. In the country south of the Sli and Danevirke, on the other hand, there existed, with the exception of the Svans peninsula, only scattered Danish population during ancient times, and when later the cultivation of this barren frontier region started, the majority of the settlers came from the south. Thus Dänishwold, Hohn Herred, and Süderstapel cannot be considered as part of the Danish cultural sphere, and they will not be included in this discussion of the problem of South Slesvig.

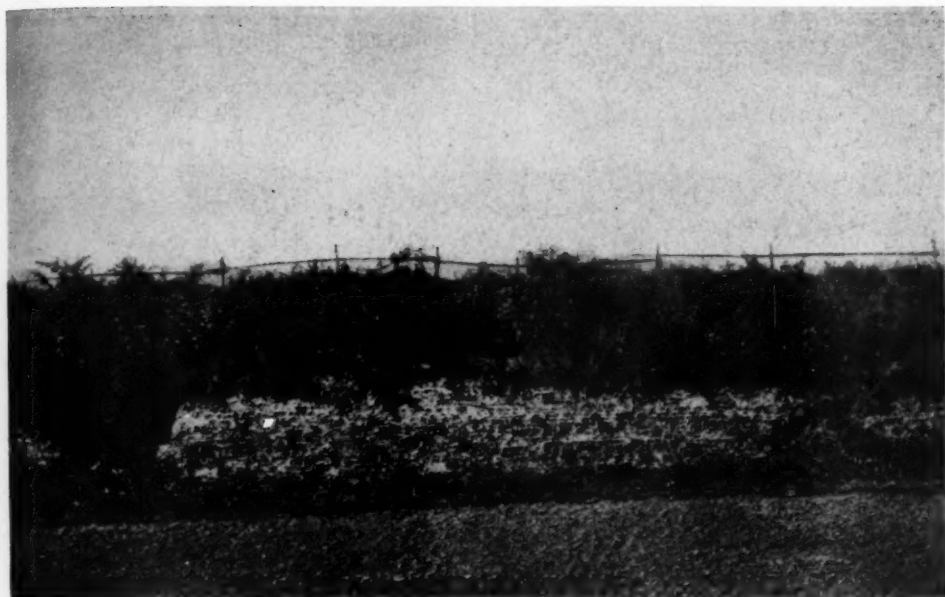
Further, as to the people living between the Skelbæk and Danevirke one might ask if they must not be considered as German by nationality. The answer is both yes and no . . . more no than yes. Actually this population is neither German nor Danish but there are many indications that the trend is toward closer affiliation with the north, with Denmark.

One must not forget that the split in southern Jutland between Danish and German is of rather recent origin. Until about one hundred years ago everyone in Slesvig considered himself, first and foremost, a Danish citizen. All, whether they spoke German or Danish, paid homage to their common King, common flag, common capital and common national institutions and were proud to belong to a small, but progressive society, whose culture enjoyed the respect of the world. Not to be denied is that at the same time many economic ties . . . such as the trade

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*VALDEMAR THE GREAT'S (1157-1182) BRICK WALL AT RØDEKRO
(Danevirke)*

in oxen . . . joined southern Jutland with Holstein and with the rest of northern Germany. These ties, however, were non-political. The same was true of the influence of German culture apparent among government and other public officials, an influence which was simply a leftover from the days these officials in their youth had spent at German universities. Of greater significance were the close relations that existed between the estate owners of South Jutland and those of Holstein, who, as knights, enjoyed many ancient privileges. Essentially, however, and in spite of the fact that many members of this class themselves believed the contrary, the relationship was non-political.

South Slesvig was bi-lingual, i.e. the upper class spoke German, and understood Danish while the majority of the people, the peasants, originally spoke Danish and mastered enough German to enable them to trade with peddlers from Holstein and travelling salesmen from Hamburg and to understand, although not satisfactorily, the German services in their churches. A hundred years ago, however, a change was brought about in so far as the rural population abandoned their Jutland dialect and adopted Low German as their spoken language. Originally this step was prompted neither by nationalistic nor political reasons but merely by practical ones—the commercial exchange with the south and a wish to make it easier for the young people to understand



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the German language in their schools and churches. By 1840 this development had progressed to the point where German predominated in the eastern part, Angel, up to a line slightly south of the Firth of Flensburg, while Danish still ruled over the region stretching to Fjorde district (northwest of the city of Slesvig). Not before 1840 did the national partition become apparent in South Slesvig.

As we know, one of the after effects of the French revolution was a new feeling of nationalism, based on common language, which developed in most European countries during the first half of the nineteenth century. This new feeling of national unity, replacing the old pride in citizenship, threatened to break up the old states, such as Denmark, the Netherlands and Austria, while it welded firmly together the new national states in Germany and Italy. In South Slesvig the German educated upper class soon became enthusiastic over a German political unity and succeeded, not least by stressing the economic advantages a union with a great and wealthy country might bring, in winning the approval of the population at large for their program. The first phase of this program was reflected in the so-called Slesvig-Holstein movement, which, however, was soon made superfluous by the direct interference of Bismarck and the incorporation of the whole of Slesvig into Prussia and Germany. Danish resistance to this event was easily over-

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SCENE FROM ANGEL AT LILLE-GRØDESBY

come in the war of 1864, and the sympathies that still existed in South Slesvig for the old union with Denmark were greatly weakened through the unwise language policy carried on by Denmark during the last few years before the separation. Only in Flensburg and in those rural districts where Danish was still spoken did the old loyalism persist, a feeling which has developed into modern nationalism as the number of Danish German sympathizers elsewhere increased.

The attitude of the German-speaking majority is of course now the crucial problem in South Slesvig. For half a century after 1864 it seemed as though the promises of a materially happy future for the country, if incorporated into Germany, would be fulfilled. Agricultural laws of strongly protectionistic character made the farmers wealthy, but deprived them at the same time of their old independence. New possibilities, in the commercial fleets of Hamburg and Bremen, were opened to the seamen from Slesvig. The ambitious young man, whether he wanted to become a businessman, a banker or a government official, now had a far greater choice than what little Denmark had been able to offer him. The people of South Slesvig, like those of Holstein, utilized these opportunities to the utmost. The mention of one name alone may serve as an illustration: H. J. Schacht, President of the German "Reichsbank." At the same time, however, South Slesvig fell back into obscurity, offering a sharp contrast to the alertness of the Danish



COW PASTURING AT HEDEBY

North Slesvig. The contributions that South Slesvig, after its incorporation into Germany, made to German science, literature and art, are surprisingly small. This is true also in regard to popular Low German literature, where Holstein at least can show such authors as Klaus Groth and his successors. Within South Slesvig itself there was little of that interest in religious or national life so much in evidence both in Denmark and North Slesvig. Still less did one find in South Slesvig that spirit of freedom and independence which prevailed in the Scandinavian countries. The link between the past and the present had been artificially broken: the German culture which here should have followed the Scandinavian one, suffered from a disease which prevented growth and development.

The mass of the population, blissfully ignorant that anything was wrong, continued to follow their master on a road which seemed to lead to ever greater material happiness. It even went so far as to sympathize with German attempts to stamp out Scandinavian culture in North Slesvig in the hope of bringing this region into the same dependent position as that of South Slesvig. Even Germany's breakdown in 1918 failed to make the majority stop and think. When during the thirties Nazism began to take hold in Germany it found strong support in

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South Slesvig where the farmers welcomed the Nazis' reactionary methods of aiding agriculture through the "Erbhöfe"-system.

The defeat of Germany in May 1945, however, was the signal of a far-reaching change. Love for the Nazis had already diminished during the preceding years because of a totalitarian regime which came into conflict with the feeling of independence and the belief in human dignity which still slumbered within these people. This newly aroused desire for freedom gave voice to the demand that man must not become a slave of an all-powerful state. The German-speaking and, until this date, pro-German majority suddenly became aware of the fact that among them lived a minority which for eighty years had fought to retain their Danish language and culture. Another realization was that freedom, driven in exile south of the Skelbæk, still lived to the north, in Scandinavia. A strong movement in favor of release from Germany and union with the north was soon bearing fruit in a general wish to provide the younger generation with an education in Danish. This movement gained considerable momentum a few months after the armistice, with the influx of refugees from eastern Germany into the British zone. In South Slesvig, these refugees came to number as many as the population itself (about 300,000 people), and when the occupation authorities not only expropriated houses and land for them but also granted them the right to vote and to take part in the administration, the people of South Slesvig found that they had had enough, and in the elections the majority voted for a union with the country which had been the home of their forefathers.

The appeal was received with mixed feelings in Denmark. The memories the Danes had in common with South Slesvig were not altogether pleasant. More important no doubt was the fact that the appeal obviously was dictated more by a dislike for the old Germany and a suspicion of the new, than by love for Denmark. Finally, it was only natural that a small country should feel anxious not to do anything that might interfere with the interests of a large nation. This anxiety was based on the general opinion that Germany, as before, "would rise again." On the other hand, the risk connected with a refusal of the appeal was equally clear. If South Slesvig remained a part of Germany, be it a small or a large Germany, there was no reason to believe that its people would enjoy a complete change of mind and attitude. Especially was this not to be hoped for in a country whose population had doubled through the addition of extremely aggressive Nazi elements. In all probability the newly awakened Danish movement would then not only be strangled but the old Danish minority would be overrun as well. It was even likely that the German influence would not stop

at the Danish border but that overpopulation would make it possible for this influence to filter through into Denmark, causing unaccountable misfortunes.

Thus it has not been easy for the Danes, from the standpoint of their own best interest, to take sides in the South Slesvig problem.

Another thing must also be considered, namely, what would serve best the interests of the people of South Slesvig. From a purely humane point of view, is it better for them to remain with a Germany whose spirit obviously will not change within a reasonably near future? Or is it better for them to become assimilated gradually into a society where modern principles of justice, identical with the old Nordic ideals, are honored and where the chief task is not to create "Herrenvolk," but free and independent citizens?

Dr. Knud Fabricius is Professor of History in the University of Copenhagen.

Children's Prayers

BY HENRIK WERGELAND

Translated from the Norwegian by Henriette C. K. Naeseth

WHEN I go to bed at night
Thirteen angels guard my rest—
Two are stationed at my right,
Two are watching at my left,
Two stand guard beside my pillow,
Two are at my feet also,
Two my covers on me keep,
Two awake me from my sleep,
And one shows me as I rest
All Heaven's paradises blest.

GOOD night, good night,
Creep under your covers,
Carnation bestudded,
With roses bedight,
And raspberry leaves of silvery white.
Tomorrow again, if God so will,
You shall waken once more to song-bird's trill.



Acme Photo

COUNT FOLKE BERNADOTTE AT HAIFA

“Let Bernadotte Do It”

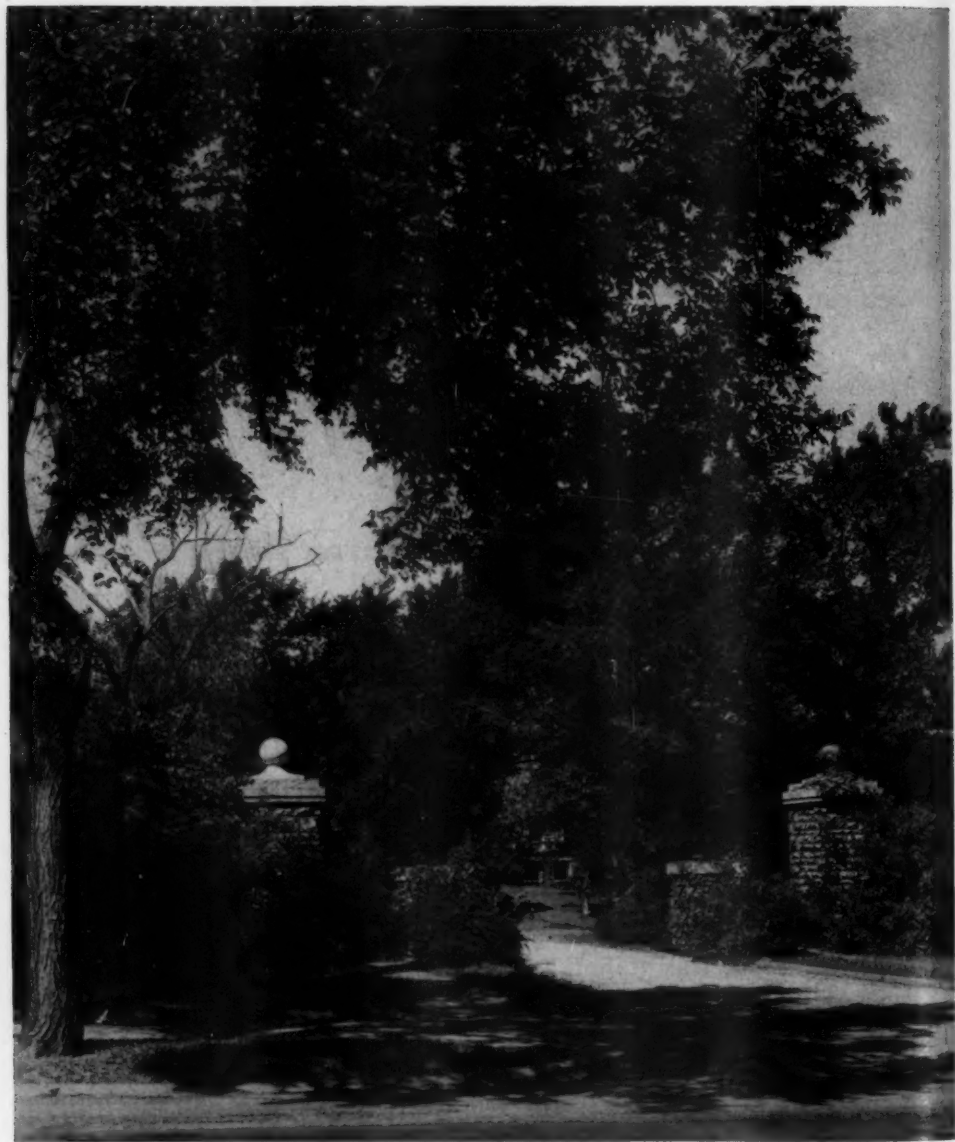
THIS YEAR the United Nations entrusted to a Swede the solution of an insoluble problem—The Palestine Question. As Mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte flew between the capitals of the Arab states and Israel. Within a few days he succeeded in securing a four-weeks truce and established his headquarters on the island of Rhodes, where he was joined by his American wife.

International negotiation is no new business for this member of the Bernadotte family who secured the release of thousands of prisoners in Germany during the World War and received the first offer of German surrender. He is true to the tradition of his family in his willingness to accept responsibilities. At Cairo he is reported to have said:

“If I succeed in this mission which has been entrusted to me I shall not be proud. Man cannot do anything alone. He must have the help of Almighty God. So if I should succeed I shall know whom to thank.”

A Creative University

BY HENRY GODDARD LEACH



THE ENTRANCE

*LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING*

IN A BOOK ABOUT AMERICAN CITIES it is recorded that one of the distinctions of Missouri is "Clarence R. Decker's University of Kansas City." This institution is "a creative university" in true American sense. It derives no support from the taxes of state or of city. Its endowment is less than two thousand dollars. It depends on the fees of its four thousand students and the generous contributions of the private citizens of Kansas City. The University of Kansas City is a home of the four freedoms, indeed of the forty freedoms of free America.

At Harvard University a student with perseverance and imagination can now obtain a degree not only in a special field like chemistry or literature, but in the philosophical subject of American Civilization. In Missouri Clarence R. Decker believes that the American way of life can best be understood by comparison with other civilizations. As Visiting Professor there, André Maurois has given courses in French Civilization and Sir Bernard Pares in Russian Civilization. In 1947 I had the privilege of teaching two courses in Scandinavian Civilization.

The University of Kansas City is conducive to the joy of living and



*CLARENCE R. DECKER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AND
EDITOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CITY REVIEW*

to creative thinking. It is situated in the wooded hills overlooking the business section of the city. Great trees brush against its buildings. It is surrounded by lovely private estates and public museums. On a neighboring hill rises the marble palace of the Nelson Art Gallery where one can study the exhibits of other civilizations: the ancient Chinese and Indic, the Amerindian, the Egyptian, the Cretan, as well as American Colonial and Gothic.

The spirit of this institution can best be felt in the classrooms crowded with punctual and eager students, in their glad "good-mornings" to the stranger on the campus, or on the neighboring highways of the wooded heights where a student who owns a car stops beside a pedestrian and asks, "Can I give you a lift, Professor?" Everywhere in the gardens open-air fireplaces invite to picnic and discussion. The University is no respecter of age. Some of my best evening pupils were principals of public schools.

"How do we compare with Harvard?" was one of the questions. I

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PRESIDENT DECKER AND MIGUEL ALEMAN, PRESIDENT OF MEXICO, AT THE CEREMONY, MAY 17, 1947, WHEN PRESIDENT ALEMAN RECEIVED THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS. PRESIDENT ALEMAN PRESENTED TO THE UNIVERSITY A STATUE OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN BY A MEXICAN SCULPTOR WHICH NOW STANDS ON THE CAMPUS



LAW AND ADMINISTRATION

replied that the spelling and punctuation were not as good here, but that the ideas in their themes were more fertile than in my courses in Comparative Literature and English Composition at Harvard. Missouri is a seat of learning, but even more of creative literature.

The University of Kansas City is the first American college to offer a course in Scandinavian Civilization.

War Poems

A Norwegian Secret Weapon

BY HEDIN BRONNER

FLOWERS AMONG the ruins of war! The thought is perhaps not so strange to our generation, which has seen poppies spring up from the battle-churned fields in Flanders, and now sees the London bombsites growing into veritable botanical gardens. But from the wreckage left by the Germans in Norway rises a flower that claims the attention of even our paradox-wise time. The Norwegian wartime poem, blossoming in colorful richness of spirit, has had its seed in the physical hardship and moral agony of a civilized people under barbarian rule. And today, in the long struggle of reconstruction among the scarred towns and villages, the Norwegians pause now and then to remind themselves of the evil time that was. Volume after volume of lyrics, written stealthily in the shadow of German censorship, is appearing on the bookstands, and one begins to wonder if everybody in Norway turned poet during the occupation.

But the volume of poetry produced by Norwegians in bondage or in exile will not surprise those who are familiar with the time-honored Scandinavian custom of composing verse for all kinds of festive occasions within the family. Rare is the man who has not at one time or other tried his hand at a few lines in honor of some birthday or anniversary. And it is natural that stubborn Norwegian resistance to injustice and censorship should find expression in poetry by amateurs as well as by professionals. It is significant that a large proportion of the lyrical collections now appearing are debuts.

There is no denying that many of the wartime lyrics are a bit roughshod or homespun. Indeed, Norwegian critics are largely holding themselves aloof from them, waiting, as they say, for Norway's post-war literary renaissance. But outsiders who are fortunate enough to be able to read Norwegian have found many bits that ring with the immortal echo of great literature. Most of these poems had found their way into print already long before the liberation; they appeared anonymously in the so-called "illegal" printed and mimeographed newspapers of the Norwegian—and Danish!—Undergrounds, or were smuggled out to be published in the many newspapers and magazines in exile—for example, *Norges Nytt* in Sweden and *Norsk Tidend* and *Fram* in Lon-

don. A few were translated into English for such publications as *The Norseman* in London and *THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW* over here.

The German occupation authorities must have been exasperated in their own inability to smother the cries of their embarrassingly literate enemy. If they had realized that their own offices, their own presses and their own stationery were being used at night to turn out the "illegal" material, they would have been even more exasperated; for all this poetry, from rustic doggerel to polished lyrics, constituted a weapon more deadly than the most unscrupulous Nazi propaganda. It crystallized the indignation and bitterness of the people and made them conscious of their own integrity. It needed little smoothness of form; it needed only truth of feeling, which gained beauty when reflected in the reader's sympathy of mind.

The identities of those who thus expressed their defiance have now all come to light, of course. One or two of them were pretty well recognized by their style already in the early days of the war, and the writer can recall some eager discussions about this among the better-informed Norwegians in London. Arnulf Överland, for example, who was known in peacetime as a communist and merciless critic of social and literary conventions, was in a German concentration camp, writing poems in beautifully conventional style—one of them a stirring tribute to the king!

*Ditt løfte: Alt for Norge,
det har du trofast holdt.*

(Thy promise, "All for Norway!"
That hast thou truly kept.)

This master's hand shone through every line he managed to send out, though one interesting mistake was commonly made in attributing to him a certain poem that he had not written, as we shall see later. Överland received a hero's welcome at his home-coming, and he now enjoys the honor of living in the Nineteenth-Century poet Wergeland's famous home, "Grotten" (The Grotto), in the Royal Palace Park.*

But it was not merely the fascination of unknown or uncertain authorship that inspired the readers of wartime lyrics. Several poets who were living in exile and freely signing their works assumed almost legendary proportions in the eyes of their public. Nordahl Grieg, the well-known journalist-poet, for example, was idolized for flying with

* An article on Överland by Olav Paus Grunt appeared in the *REVIEW* for September 1945.

coastal patrols and accompanying P.T. raiders and commando parties, while he wrote of his people's devotion to Norway and their longing for freedom. The poem "17. Mai 1940," written only a month after the enemy came, served as a beacon for Norwegians everywhere.

*I dag står flaggstangen naken
blant Eidsvolls grønnende trær.
Men nettopp i denne timen
vet vi hva frihet er.*

(Today the flagpole stands naked
'mongst Eidsvoll's green-budding trees.
But just in this very hour
we know what freedom means.)

Grieg's collection *Friheten* (Freedom) was published both in Sweden and in Iceland during the war. The poet met a hero's end over Berlin in 1943.

Two other poets who are assured a lasting place among the great are Gunnar Reiss-Andersen and Sigmund Skard. Both of them displayed, during the war, that true poetic vision which transcends the merely personal and immediate in an experience—transcends, but does not remove. Reiss-Andersen's eulogies and lyrics, full of the warmest love and the coldest hate, full of mystic communing with the nature and spirit of the homeland, attained an Edda-like tone that could not fail to impress the Northern mind.

*Bærer du jernbyrd, mitt land?
Over glødende esser
driver det skodde som virøyk
mens høstvinden messer.*

(Bearest thou an ordeal,* my land?
Over glowing forges
drift mists like incense
as the autumn wind chants.)

This is from the volume *Kamp Dikt fra Norge* (Battle Poems from Norway), which appeared in Sweden in 1943. The collection *Norsk Røst* (Norse Voice) appeared there the following year, and all the poems from both groups are included in the 1946 one-volume edition of Reiss-Andersen's works since 1921. Sigmund Skard's war poems, on the other hand, were first published here in the United States under the titles *For Norge* and *Televaag*, both of which volumes were in-

* The medieval religious ordeal of carrying or walking on red-hot iron.

corporated in *Vestanfor Havet* (West of the Ocean), published in Oslo in 1946. It was while Skard held a responsible position with the American and Norwegian governments in Washington that he poured forth from his pen these great visions of humanity: of the negro, or the doughboy, or the farmer in peacetime Norway. While some of his poems show the rational approach of the scientist and historian, many are filled with a simple pathos and a beauty heightened by the sonorous melodies of *landsmål*.* In this duality, Skard provides a meeting-point for the romantic-toned realism and the Eliot-inspired naturalism that are vying for popularity in Norwegian poetry today. It is indeed remarkable that the same poet who has noised forth "Gjennom Gruvedalen"—that poetical charcoal-sketch of American wartime mining scenes—has also sounded the wistful notes of such a poem as, for example, "Klokkene" (The Bells), in which the German threat to melt down Norwegians church bells conjures up haunting images of the present and the future alike.

*Mållaus ligg kyrkja i dalen
under dei mørke skar.
Skogen susar sin gamle song,
men får ikkje lenger svar.*

(Voiceless the church in the valley
under the dark glens lies.
The forest whispers its ancient song,
but no longer gets replies.)

What great and small had in common through the bitter years was a strange mixture of humility and pride in their love for Norway. In all the volumes that are available from the period, there is no evidence of nationalistic boasting. There is reverence for the majestic beauty of northern nature; grief at the loss of peace and honor; and bitter disdain for all German ideals and practices. And there is unshakeable faith in an inner strength and freedom which must transcend all earthly bonds. Överland expressed it thus:

*Vi eide ikke sverd!
Vi trodde mer på freden,
fornuften, arbeidsgleden,
på selve livets verd!
Vi trodde ikke drap og brand
i lengden gavnet noget land.
Vi trodde på en seier
for rettsinn og forstand.*

* The synthetic language (also called nynorsk) which is a composite of provincial dialects and which recently has been officially on an equal footing with the more conservative riksmål (bokmål).

*Til frihet er vi vant!
 En mann kan bære lenker;
 det han i taushet tenker,
 blir ikke mindre sant!*

(We owned not any sword!
 We had more faith in peace
 and in life's own true worth!
 We did not think that death and fire
 at length could profit any land.
 A victory we believed in
 for righteousness and reason.

To freedom we are wont!
 A man may carry fetters;
 what he in silence ponders
 is no less true for that!)*

It is interesting to note that several women are among the new generation of poets produced by the war. Halldis Moren Vesaas' melodious *landsmål* verse, collected under the title *Tung Tids Tale* (Words from a Time of Sorrow), carries special messages of brotherhood among the Scandinavian nations. Inger Hagerup, in *Videre* (Still Continuing), whimsically and wistfully sketches the important *little* things in nature and human life, all under the shadow of Occupation. But force and substance are given to this little volume by the inclusion of the immortal "Aust-Vågøy," which commemorates the Norwegian Lidice. This is the poem which, when it appeared anonymously during the war, was widely mistaken for the work of Överland. The first lines are often quoted:

*De brente våre gårder.
 De drepte våre menn.
 La våre hjerter hamre
 det om og om igjen.*

(They burnt down all our farmsteads.
 They killed off all our men.
 Our heartbeats hammer forth it
 Again and yet again.)

Ingeborg Flood's collection *Godt Å Være To* (It's Good to be Two) also deserves mention. Here the erotic element, common among many of Norway's women writers today, surges forth strongly; and where this author attempts to suppress it, she tends to give way to extreme

* A complete translation by Henriette C. K. Naeseth appeared in the REVIEW for December 1941, and one by Charles Wharton Stork is included in the American-Scandinavian Foundation's Anthology of Norwegian Lyrics (1942).

bitterness cast in a prosy or journalistic style. The title poem, however, is a significant contribution to Norway's wartime literature because, written the month before the German invasion, it already speaks of the need for mutual comfort and support "in times like these, with days and nights so sated with fear."

The same note of prophetic anxiety appears in one of the last poems Herman Wildenvey produced before his public utterances were silenced by the occupation. Through "Nyttår i Resepsjonen" (New Year in the Lobby), an allegory marking the end of 1939, the European conflict reverberates ominously in its increasing fury. It is no longer a battle for Poland, says the poet; "No, now they would extinguish the sun, freedom's lofty light!"

*Dit er det altså kommen.—
Be eller ikke be—
være—ikke være,
vår skjebne har oss i lommen.
Vi kan ikke be om å være—
men be om å være i fred!
Det starter vi året med.*

(So it has come to this, then.—
To pray or not to pray—
to be or not to be,
our fate has us all in its pocket.
We cannot pray only to be—
but pray to be left in peace!
This start we the new year with.)

Incidentally, if the bi-lingual pun "Be eller ikke be" is not accidental, it epitomizes the sly humor that underlies much of Wildenvey's writing even in serious moments. This humor comes to the fore in many of the wartime poems, which did not find their way out of the poet's study until they were published in the collection *Filomele* (Philomela) in the autumn of 1946. Here, in addition to eulogies for the war heroes and mocking-verses for the enemy, are twenty-eight fables under the signature "Aisopos 1941," in which characters and events of the day are easily identified. The title-poem, too, makes obvious application of a well-known legend, that of the ravished princess transformed into a nightingale. Wildenvey's style and philosophy, characteristically homely, seem to be unaffected by the occasional use of classical themes or by the wartime strain of furtive writing.

The septuagenarian Gabriel Scott, best known for the novels with which he has so long entertained Norwegians of all ages, in 1945 published *Årringer* (Annual Rings), a volume of verse representing a

period from the Nineties to the Liberation. Especially interesting are the indictments this author directs against his own generation for permitting the conditions that finally led to war. "We came with our well-worn phrases," he says, "And bade [the youth] hold firm." As much as a decade before the war, he had written "Har Vi En Mann—" (Have We a Man) with the bitter cry, "Wake up from your stupor, Norwegian man,—that is, if you can!" To this poem, with its appeal for a fearless Norwegian leader, he added two stanzas during the war, sarcastically hailing Quisling as the one. Scott as an artist has always loved humor and life and sunshine, but as a philosopher he has been a confirmed pessimist. In "Katten Min" (My Cat) he thus concludes a comparison between himself and his pet: "What difference will it make in the balance of the scales, when we both are sleeping deep in the bosom of the earth . . . ?" And it is not strange that the experiences of the war should serve to deepen his pessimism. He finds no solace in religion, placing Spinozism before institutional Christianity. He never whines, however, but rather speaks a bewildered melancholy on behalf of younger people. In "Ungdom" (Youth), for example, he pictures the condemned young prisoner's mind, which finds no comforting heritage of faith or hope. "Believe? I believe that I shall die and never rise again, that with bloody torso I shall be put into an oblong hole. I believe in the misery of human life and in the peace of death; I believe that only the one who is safely buried will feel no more sorrow."

A catalogue of wartime lyricists could be extended almost indefinitely, and the line must be drawn somewhere. At least a passing mention must be made, however, of several others whose voices helped support the mighty chorus of defiance, and whose talents have shown promise for the future. Arne Paasche Aasen's little human sketches with their curious and surprising twists are popular; the keynote is set in "Blåveisfamilien" (The Blue Anemone Family), where the reader is urged to be, like the anemone, ahead of his own time, without asking "... whether the wind that blows is from the north or from the south." The Gudbrandsdal region is represented by three optimistic poets, each of whom published a collection in 1945; *Livsens Tre* (The Tree of Life) is by Tore Örjasæter, *Yta og Djupe* (Surface and Depth) by Jan-Magnus Bruheim, and *Berg ved Blått Vatn* (Mountains by Blue Water) by Tor Jonsson. These all expound a faith in the power of nature over evil, of man over beast. The same philosophy is implied in Tormod Skagestad's *Om Fjellprofilen* (Around the Mountain Profiles), poems written in a local dialect of Buskerud; but Skagestad's message lacks clarity and direction. Tarjei Vesaas' *Kjeldene* (The Fountains) is full of half-spoken words, of obscure and mystic sym-

bolism. Björn Endreson's *Kadens* (Cadence) tends toward self-centered impressions and self-conscious strivings for effect. Paal Brekke, too, largely fails to rise beyond personal impressions—the impressions of an erotic and skeptical young exile; in *Jeg Gikk Så Lange Veier* (I Wandered Such Long Ways) he seems to grope for guidance, and it is not clear whether he feels that it is he or all mankind that God has forsaken. "There is no God for Jacob," he says. "He is now struggling only with himself." Ingvar Hauge's *Hvit Demring* (White Twilight) is full of the melancholy of wasted youth, a strange mixture of high seriousness and desperate hedonism in which life is described as a "danse macabre." Louis Kvalstad, a native of Trøndelag, has been known to the public since 1936; his *Vingeslag* (Wing-Beats) appeared in 1942 and *Drømmen om Tiden og Bølgen* (The Dream of Time and Tide) in 1946. Kvalstad leans heavily on the grossly sensual and erotic for his symbolism, but his original and varied forms are refreshing to all palates. Claes Gill audaciously published the collection *Ord i Jern* (Words in Iron) in Norway in 1942, though it contained several poems whose ambiguity delighted the initiated and fortunately deceived the Nazis. Olav Dalgard in *Gjennom Mørkret* (Through the Darkness) speaks for those who, like himself, endured the horrors of life in German concentration camps. And Sigurd Bodvar, Kristofer Haave, and Elling M. Solheim are among the many more who yielded to the tremendous national urge for self-expression under the German censorship. A few popular ballads and other songs of uncertain or community authorship are to be found in Finn Bø's *Forbuden Frukt* (Forbidden Fruit).

Most of Norway's wartime poetry will probably not be translated. Even where the subject-matter is not of limited national appeal, the form and style defy imitation in other languages. Much has already been said about the difficulty of translating the standard poetical works of such writers as Ibsen and Björnson; but imagine poems that are neither entirely bound nor entirely free—that are set in a loose framework of irregular rhyme and assonance, sometimes with an accentual rather than syllabic meter. When all the rich sounds inherent in living Norwegian are bent into this pattern, the effect is supple and smooth-flowing. Indeed, it may very well be that no poetry depends more on the melody, harmony, and terse idiom of the native language than does that of Norway today.

But there is more than mere sound-effect in the most outstanding products of the war. The whimsical and sometimes volcanic philosophy of Överland, for example, may be appreciated in any language. So

may his powerful insight into human destiny—witness the fact that as early as 1936 he was writing a prophetic dream-phantasy about the spread of Nazism, with the startling refrain “Europe is burning!”* And the vivid pictures that come crowding forth from Överland’s lines have their counterpart in Grieg and Skard and Reiss-Andersen, and many others; they are typical of good Norwegian poetry and are a strong basis for its possible interest to other nations and other times. Though the difficulty of translation is almost prohibitive, many English-speaking people will find it both pleasant and profitable to make the acquaintance of this unique body of literature as best they can—through the few translations that do exist, or perhaps through a study of the Norwegian language itself. Those who have held that fine literature is becoming further and further removed from the living and working community will then have an opportunity to reflect on the function of poetry in national survival and resistance to enemy ideas. The lovely flower still blooms in the hustle of reconstruction, a symbol of unity and a present source of strength to those who recall the thorns that Norway’s enemy found in it.

* A translation by Einar Haugen appeared in the REVIEW for March 1943.

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Nationalization of Industry in Great Britain and Norway

BY WALTER GALENSON

THE TWO COUNTRIES of western Europe most actively pursuing a policy designed to achieve socialism through democratic means are Great Britain and Norway. Although obvious differences characterize the size and complexity of the two economies, many problems, both of a political and economic nature, confront the planners of the new societies in common. Perhaps the thorniest issue, in view of its fundamental and irreversible nature, concerns the nationalization of industry.

It would be logical to expect that the policy of the Norwegian Labor government would be the more impetuous. Norway's Labor Party has long been reputed one of the most radical of European socialist organizations. Between 1921 and 1923 it enjoyed the dubious distinction of affiliation with the Comintern, and not until 1927 did it cease to advocate "dictatorship of the proletariat." True, the formation of the Nygaardsvold government in 1935 and the assumption of new responsibilities diminished revolutionary ardor, a process that was hastened by developments in the Soviet Union and Germany, conveying the warning that the mere overthrow of the parliamentary "bourgeois" state would not necessarily usher in a workers' Utopia. But there remained a legacy of sansculottism that might have reasserted itself under the stimulus of the heady wine of political power in a period of post-occupation turbulence. The British Labor Party, on the other hand, was nurtured on the gradualism preached by the Fabian Society, with little admixture of the Marxism and syndicalism that

found fertile soil in the political labor movement of Norway.

And yet the record of the years since the termination of World War II in Europe leads to an opposite conclusion. The issue of nationalization has created divisions not only in Britain as a whole, but within the ranks of the British labor movement as well, as a consequence of the persevering though not entirely unswerving course set by the Labor government. The Norwegian socialists have tended to be somewhat less dogmatic about nationalization as an end in itself, preferring to avoid head-on conflict over the issue during the period of industrial reconstruction. Government regulation rather than ownership has been the order of the day in Norway since 1945.

What are the factors behind this diversity of experience? Why did not anticipated reactions assert themselves? It is the purpose of this paper to enumerate briefly a few of the salient features of the contrasting British and Norwegian policy, that may assist in evaluating the events of the past and in interpreting future trends.

An important consideration is the different fates that befell the leaders of labor and industry in the two countries during the war. British labor participation in the Churchill cabinet was always at arm's length, and in the factory and workshop the wartime truce was not always respected. The complete collapse of coalition in 1945, and the vituperativeness of the general election campaign in that year, attest to the latent hostility suppressed temporarily in the interest of resistance to the common foe. Even com-

radeship in arms did not alleviate resentments, as evidenced by the strong class feeling between officers and enlisted men so often encountered in the British Army.

Collaboration between the leaders of diverse social groups in war-time Norway appears to have been much warmer. Businessmen and labor leaders, Høire and Arbeiderparti men alike fought the Germans in the illegal Home Front organizations,¹ and together they suffered the indignities of prison and concentration camp. The problems of organizing the peace were often discussed when hope for the future was faint indeed, under conditions which swept away all previous social distinctions. A reservoir of goodwill came into being between 1940 and 1945, and although some of it has been dissipated since, what remains tempers political and economic thinking.

A second factor, which in a sense raised the question of nationalization to more immediate prominence in Britain, was the relative status of industrial ownership in the two countries in 1945. For many years before the war a considerable sector of the Norwegian economy had been under government ownership, while the British lagged in this respect. The Norwegian concession laws of 1909 had already made provision for reversion of the waterfalls, the Norwegian equivalent of British coal, to the state after a certain number of years of exploitation by private interests. The generation of electric power and the production of gas were long municipal functions in Norway. The railroad, telephone and telegraph systems were state-owned, bus lines had been partly nationalized and coastal shipping closely controlled through the prevailing system of government subsidies. The marketing of agricultural commodities was largely effected through producer cooperatives, while grains and alcoholic beverages were handled through state monopolies. Most motion picture theatres were municipally owned.

A catalogue of British nationalization policy reveals the extent to which Great Britain has been merely catching up with the Norwegians. Since 1945 Parliament has enacted legislation vesting in the state ownership of the coal mines, telecommunications, the railways, electricity companies and the Bank of England.²

But to my mind the crucial distinction between British and Norwegian nationalization policy since 1945 is to be sought not so much in ideological divergences between the respective labor parties, nor in the objective conditions respecting ownership prevailing at the end of the war, as in the firmness with which the average worker has adhered to the socialist tenet that economic progress and private ownership are inconsistent, even in the short run. The experience of the Labor government in Norway since 1935, plus an intensive educational campaign sponsored by the trade unions, have persuaded the majority of Norwegian workers that a large measure of social reform can be achieved without formal transference of industrial ownership to the state, and that therefore it is not necessary to rush nationalization without regard to the consequences. The British worker remains convinced, by and large, that nationalization holds the exclusive key to betterment of his lot.

The ambivalence of British governmental policy with respect to the steel industry becomes more comprehensible with this in mind. The British Labor Party in-

¹ For example, the leader of the Home Front organization at Rjukan, the site of the important Norsk Hydro chemical works, was the chief representative of management. And this in a community that has long been regarded as radical even for Norway!

² The fact that the Bank of Norway has not yet been nationalized gave rise to an amusing and significant incident: In 1946 a prominent British socialist met in Oslo with leaders of the Norwegian Labor Party to discuss matters of common interest. On being told that the question of nationalizing the Bank of Norway was to be the subject of investigation, he exclaimed: "What! You call yourselves socialists and have to *investigate* nationalizing the Bank!"

cluded the following pledge in its 1945 campaign platform:

"Public ownership of iron and steel.— Private monopoly has maintained high prices and kept inefficient high-cost plants in existence. Only if public ownership replaces private monopoly can the industry become efficient."³

The following year, confronted with the practical obstacles to the take-over of an industry as complex as steel, particularly as regards adequate managerial personnel, the Labor government decided that for the time being it was preferable to establish a Control Board to supervise current developments under the existing ownership structure, although Mr. Morrison, the parliamentary leader of the Labor Party, promised his constituents that a scheme was under preparation to provide for "the eventual principles of public ownership and control over an appropriate area."

Although this course was a practical necessity if curtailment of steel production at a critical juncture was to be avoided, the storm of protest that broke out against it was by no means confined to the left wing of the labor movement. The sentiment prevailing among trade unionists was expressed in a resolution introduced at the 1946 session of the Trades Union Congress, calling upon the government to "reconsider the whole position with a view to consulting the technical and practical men of the industry, as to the actual plan for Nationalization, at the earliest possible moment. . . ."⁴ The then Minister of Fuel and Power, Mr. Shinwell, who enjoys great popularity among the rank and file, conceded the complexity of the problem but declared: "It is not easy to jettison capitalism, even this small portion of capitalism, but that the rotten cargo is to be thrown overboard is beyond any question."⁵

The government felt impelled to reaffirm its intention of proceeding with plans for nationalizing steel, but this was not

sufficient to prevent acrid debate at the 1947 session of the TUC on a resolution deprecating "the fact that up to date no scheme for nationalization has yet come before Parliament, and [urging] the General Council to press the Government for a Bill to be drafted and submitted to Parliament during the forthcoming session."⁶ This resolution was defeated by a vote of two to one, largely out of a desire to avoid embarrassing the government. But it may be noted that one of the large unions voting against the resolution, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, had declared itself unequivocally in favor of immediate nationalization shortly before the meeting of the TUC.

The dilemma in which the British Labor government found itself was aptly summarized by *The Economist*:

"Most of the members of the Government are by now heartily sorry that the word 'steel' ever crept into the pages of 'Let Us Face the Future.' They dare not back out completely. On the other hand, they have no illusion about the administrative, Parliamentary and public consequences of going ahead and, for all their obstinate party rancour, they know that this is not the time to split the country wide open. They would gladly find a compromise that would enable them to tell their followers that they had done something, without in fact doing anything very much."⁷

It has thus far been the good fortune of the Norwegian Labor government not to have been subject to similar internal pressures. Wisely, the 1945 platform of the Norwegian Labor Party promised merely (a) to investigate the desirability of socializing the banking and insurance sys-

³ The Labour Party, *Let Us Face the Future*, London, 1945, p. 7.

⁴ *Report of the Proceedings at the 78th Annual Trades Union Congress*, Brighton, 1946, p. 383.

⁵ *Report of the 45th Annual Conference of the Labour Party*, Bournemouth, 1946, pp. 140-41.

⁶ *Report of Proceedings at the 79th Annual Trades Union Congress*, Southport, 1947, p. 528.

⁷ *The Economist*, August 16, 1947, p. 265.

tems, (b) to cooperate with industry toward rationalizing and expanding industrial capacity, (c) to nationalize large forests "when in the general interest," and (d) to control exports and imports.⁸ There has been no clamor to nationalize the merchant marine, which occupies in the Norwegian economic structure a position equivalent to British steel; the prevailing disposition is to maintain a hands-off policy as long as the industry continues to operate efficiently.

But this does not mean that Norwegian labor has renounced socialism. On the contrary, since 1945 a significant sector of economic enterprise has fallen within the government orbit through means which aroused little controversy. German-owned or controlled property, including a large portion of the aluminum industry and Norsk Hydro, the great electrochemical works, was acquired through reparations and stock purchases. Of even greater significance is the policy of investing state funds in new enterprises, which will be operated through government corporations; the most conspicuous but by no means the sole example of this "nationalizing by investment" was the Storting decision to construct a steel mill at Mo i Rana, which when completed will make Norway largely self-sufficient in steel.

Moreover, to satisfy immediate worker demand for a greater degree of "industrial democracy," as well as to overcome the objections of those within the labor movement who agree with their British colleagues that regulation and control are inefficient palliatives, a network of industry advisory committees and labor-management committees has been established. These are designed to give the individual worker a greater insight into the problems and techniques of management, and to provide the government with the means of control and the information necessary for economic planning on a national scale.

Even with the best will in the world it

is hardly likely that the Labor government could pursue this pragmatic policy toward nationalization were it not for the Workers' Education Association, which is far more extensively developed than its British counterpart. The resources of this organization have been employed to emphasize the basic economic concepts held by the labor leadership, among them the conviction that regulation may be more appropriate than nationalization in the current situation. A pamphlet that has had a large circulation among workers makes this point in the following terms:

"In our society the power of the capitalist is sharply reduced. Already there are large sectors of the economy that are either socialized or cooperatively managed. But the private capitalistic sector is also thoroughly regulated. Capitalists hold property in trust. . . .

"We must understand that through our shops we work indirectly for society. In reality the capitalists are only intermediaries between us and society. In the present situation it is of little significance whether we work for a nationalized, a cooperative or a private factory. The output is in all cases equally necessary for society."⁹

A concluding word as to the future: It seems clear to me that the differences between British and Norwegian nationalization lie primarily in methods and timing rather than aims. In both cases the ultimate goal remains socialism.¹⁰ But this does not necessarily imply nationalization of all or even a majority of industrial activity. It is estimated that when the British Labor Party will have fulfilled its 1945 election promises, only about 20 per

⁸ Det Norske Arbeiderparti, *Arbeidsprogram*, 1945.

⁹ Gunnar Ousland, *Se samfunnet gjennom verkstedet*, Arbeidernes Opplysningsforbund, 1946, pp. 9-11.

¹⁰ Only recently the vice-chairman of the Norwegian Labor Party wrote: "The Labor Party is and will remain a socialist party. We can never accept the social wrongs that characterize the capitalistic class system. All our work leads forward to a society without economic exploitation, to a socialist society." *Arbeiderbladet*, December 15, 1947.

cent of the economy will be under public ownership.¹¹ Although the Norwegians have not yet defined the boundaries of their intentions, it is anticipated that private ownership will continue indefinitely to play a major role in the nation's economic structure. The goal of a "mixed" rather than a completely socialized economy has been set not only out of regard to practicality and efficiency of adminis-

tration, but even more significantly, it is being viewed against the broader question of the degree of public ownership that is compatible with the retention of the existing system of civil liberties and democratic rights, to which British and Norwegian socialists alike are deeply committed.

¹¹ British Information Services, *Labour and Industry in Britain*, Vol. V, No. 8, p. 202.

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A Memorandum

By WILLIAM HOVGAARD

Read at the presentation to him, April 6, 1948, of The Scandinavian Gold Medal 1948

I WAS born and educated in Denmark, where I graduated from the Naval Academy in Copenhagen, but in 1882 the Danish Government sent me to England to take a three-year course in Warship Design at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich. There I met several American officers who were sent over by their government for the same purpose; and some of them had a decisive influence on my career.

My service in the Danish Navy was partly technical and partly sea-service, winding up with various other duties as Technical Aid to the Secretary of the Navy.

Although my contacts were chiefly Danish, I had ample opportunities, both professionally and through close family relations, of intimate acquaintance with

the Norwegians, and I was also well acquainted with the Swedes.

I was forty-three years of age when, in 1901, I received an invitation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to come to the United States in order to start a new course in Naval Construction which was to be established for American naval officers at that school.

My background for this task was primarily Danish, but was deeply influenced by my English-American contacts, which gave me the best possible introduction, besides providing the knowledge of shipbuilding and of the English language.

Chiefly through my relations with the students and my association with teachers and staff at the Institute I soon discovered a specific American trait of character, which I shall describe briefly, although

imperfectly, as "generous tolerance and friendly helpfulness." This trait is not, I believe, generally recognized as something specifically American, although it pervades American life.

I observed it for instance in the hospitality and helpfulness to foreigners, in a general spirit of cooperation and teamwork and in a strong widespread humanitarianism. It finds expression in many special features.

Although, of course, the same trait is found in Europe, it seems to be much more pronounced over here and represents, I believe, a distinct superiority over European civilization.

Turning now to Scandinavia.—Coming from a small and poor country, I felt a pride in what I believed to be a fact, that Denmark and indeed all Scandinavian countries possessed certain features in which they were ahead of many larger and richer countries.

I thought of the intensive intellectual life in science, literature, and art. The Grundtvig philosophy and the folk high schools in Denmark; the housekeeping schools and the sloyd and gymnastic schools in Sweden; and the marvellous literature in Norway. These, of course, are merely samples of what I have in mind.

I thought of the democratic spirit in all the three countries, of their love of freedom as regards opinion, thought, and speech, in all of which I believed they stood on the same level as America.

All these things were little known in the United States and were largely transmitted through German sources, appear-

ing thus as by-products of German civilization.

In the practical pursuits of life the Scandinavians excelled in economy and efficiency and in attention to details.

Scandinavians, on the other hand, needed to learn the American spirit of political cooperation and greater boldness and unity of enterprise as well as many other good features.

Evidently the Americans and the Scandinavians had much to learn from one another, and I was naturally drawn into the movement for their cultural cooperation which began to develop at the beginning of the century.

I do not need to tell you anything about the history of this movement or my work in it, but I wish to say this: that without such leaders during my most active years as Professor Schofield, Doctor Leach, and Doctor Creese, I should not have been able to do my share of the work.

We all worked with enthusiasm in the belief that we were doing something worth while, and this was confirmed by the response which the movement met both here and in Scandinavia.

Great Britain's rôle in this movement deserves special mention. It stood as the natural link at all points where American and Scandinavian civilizations met, cooperating with and supplementing each other. I was so fortunate as to benefit directly from this.

Of all European countries Great Britain was the one which most nearly exhibited and combined the traits here discussed as specific for the United States and for the Scandinavian countries.

Ygdrasil¹

(From an Iceland Beach)

BY RIDGELY TORRENCE

THE sky has gathered the flower of sunset.
The earth is red with the dew of slaughter.
The shores are ringed with the steel of onset.
Darkness covers the weaponed water.

The world-tree sickens beyond all knowing.
The worm is wasting the leaves that wreath it.
The bough is drying; the sap is slowing.
Hatreds gnaw in their hells beneath it.

If those it shelters are those who fail it,
Its ground untended, its heroes breathless,
Their doom will follow whose evils ail it,
Their stem will die though the root is deathless.

The darkness deepens and famine harries
The lands that lie in the blight's bestrewals.
The heart alone remembers and carries
The endless Edda of life's renewals.

On one sole ground will the world-tree flourish,
On earth unarmored against its bearing,
Its glories free and its strength to nourish
The world-wide lands in a common sharing.

In kinship only, with all earth gardened,
The ravished leaf may be stayed in thinning,
The stony ground at the root unhardened,
The bough be green in a new beginning.

¹ Courtesy *Saturday Review of Literature*.



THE QUARTER'S HISTORY



DENMARK

DENMARK IS "AMERICA-CONSCIOUS." Indeed, some Danes wish that Denmark could become one of the United States of America. During the second quarter of 1948 the thoughts of many Danes were turned to preparation for the annual celebration on July 4 of American Independence Day in the Rebild National Park near Aalborg. The record for attendance at this fête, unique in Europe, was no doubt broken this year. Mr. C. H. W. Hasselriis, Secretary of the Rebild National Park board, estimated the audience at close to fifty thousand. Royalty and Government, as usual, participated, as well as the American Embassy. We quote the following from the address of Jean Hersholt:

AS ONE OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN who more than forty years ago settled far from his native land and is now home on a visit I bring you greetings from sunny California. And I want to express to the best of my ability what is in our hearts today, what is stirring in all of us who have come back here to meet with relatives and friends, old and new, and to share with them the happy privilege of celebrating Independence Day and paying tribute to those ideals which democratic Denmark has in common with democratic America.

HERE WE ARE GATHERED in this lovely valley among the fine heather-clad hills of Jutland which were made into The Rebild National Park. We cannot but wonder at the farsightedness of Dr. MAX HENIUS back in Chicago when out of his love for Denmark and for America which he espoused, he created this rallying place

for the exchange of international understanding. Every time the Danish flag and the Star-Spangled Banner wave over these hills of Rebild the name of Max Henius will be in our thoughts and on our lips. And that is why we must also keep in mind that matter about which he and his collaborators—and all of us—were, and are, so greatly concerned: the preservation for future generations of *these hills as a heather-clad sanctuary* where "the ling" as we sing "shall grow and bloom forever."

THERE IS ANOTHER NAME I feel we should remember today, the name of a man who departed from this world not so long ago, a man whom for many years I have been proud to call my close friend, who was also a member of the Rebild Commission, and whose words have been heard in this place. He made a brilliant contribution to his new country. His death meant an irreparable loss to America. He was sound to the core like the Danish soil, and he never forgot his native land, Denmark. This man was GENERAL WILLIAM S. KNUDSEN. In the innumerable tributes paid to his memory in the American press all over the United States the fact that he was a Danish immigrant was stressed again and again. I am speaking here to many fathers and mothers of sons and daughters who set out for America. Parents like people who receive their children well. America has been good to us, her adopted children. And those were the very words William S. Knudsen used to express his feelings when he gave up his big position in order to serve his adopted country.

OUR GREAT COMPATRIOT Professor NIELS BOHR once stressed "that conception of the community among peoples which our whole history has fostered in us." He points to it as the most charac-

teristic feature of Danish culture. *The Rebuild idea* and this rallying place are in line with that conception. And Denmark has gained the right to point to the contributions she has made to the advancement of world culture. Not only through her great men and their work, but through the very high standard of enlightenment of her common people, their painstaking industry, their levelheadedness, the social trends they stand for, their national poise. None better than we Danish-born men and women who set out from home and found our lifework in foreign parts can appreciate that heritage, that common national background we received as a native gift, now perpetuated in our children, that historical continuity of ours. And what if we do tend to idealize Denmark? That only means that we who ordinarily view her from a distance—not only in space, but also in time—are able to see the grand design!

MAY DENMARK—and the North—always remain like a salt of the earth, causing that popular awakening which followed upon the introduction of political and social liberty to renew itself from generation to generation. In this connection it is encouraging to note the strong urge to make Denmark better known outside her national borders. We do not regard this urge solely as marking a wish to assert the name of Denmark in the new world community that is now emerging and looming greater the closer it gets to all of us in our daily lives. We regard it also as a sign of a wish and a will to make a bold new advance, not for Denmark's gain only but for the forging of that com-

munity of nations which is the hope of the world. And don't forget that community means sharing. It cannot be unilateral. It is based on mutual exchange—on knowledge and understanding.

In the same way, and for the same reasons that you here at home would like to make Denmark better known in the United States, *we* who have our homes, our work, and our friends over there will readily do our share to make America better known in Denmark. The real America! Not certain fantastic—in no way characteristic—aspects of it which, unfortunately, too often go by the cliché "typically American." No, the real America: the common people, the upright, honest, freedom-loving, hard-working men and women of America whom we who live there have come to know, whom we are a part of, among whom we feel at home. And what it all amounts to, and what we would like to see acknowledged and appreciated as it deserves to be is: the living idealism and the great heart of the American nation.

THE DAY BEFORE the celebration of American Independence Day in Denmark—July 3—another ceremony took place in the former Danish West Indies, now the Virgin Islands, the centennial of the emancipation of the slaves in 1848. Denmark emancipated her slaves fifteen years earlier than did the United States. Here the guest speaker was Henrik Kauffmann, Ambassador of Denmark to the United States. He reminded this audience that the Dannebrog, the world's oldest flag, flew in those places for 240 years before it was replaced, in 1917, by the Stars and Stripes.



ICELAND

AT THE END of the war Iceland established a special fund of 300 million kronas (about 46 million dollars) to purchase new ships and machinery to replace those lost and worn out during the war.

This investment program was of great importance to Iceland. Its results are now appearing. Twenty-five new fishing trawlers have been built for Iceland in Britain, an important figure when one realizes that, though Iceland was one of the big fishing nations in the world, it had only thirty-eight steam trawlers before the war. Sweden has built fifty large motor fishing boats for Iceland, and several have been built in Iceland itself and in Denmark. The production capacity of Iceland has been increased enormously by these big additions to its fishing fleet.

The transport fleet has also been increased and modernized. Several transport vessels have been built for Iceland, some of them with refrigeration for transporting frozen fish. On the other hand no passenger steamers have been built to replace those lost during the war. Icelanders expect human beings to travel by plane in the future.

Most of these ships have been bought at very high prices, in the belief that prices of fish would remain high for several years after the war. A good deal of the purchase price should therefore be written off rapidly, which has turned out to be somewhat difficult.

Icelanders are, however, very happy about their new equipment, and an Icelandic trawler sold the catch of one trip in May for about \$76,000. This is the highest price ever paid for the cargo of a fishing vessel.

The catch, on the whole, has not been very good this year, principally owing to rough weather and high winds. But fish-

erfolk always look to better weather and bigger catches tomorrow, and Icelanders are optimistic.

THE WAR saw quite a transfer of population, principally towards Reykjavik. The population of Reykjavik rose from 36,400 at the outbreak of the war to about 53,800 at the end of 1947. The absolute figures are not very impressive, but the increase is nearly 50 per cent in eight years. This means that during the war years and after the war Reykjavik has had to build houses, streets, schools, and all the necessary appurtenances for a new town half its own size.

This, together with the important investment program for renewing the fleet, has been quite a strain on the economy of Iceland. There is a strict control on all imports in order to be able to carry the investment program through, and lately it has also curtailed travelling abroad, a measure that has been somewhat criticized, for that has never been restricted before.

ICELANDERS HOLD a special service on a Sunday in May, in memory of those who have lost their lives at sea during the preceding year. This year only eleven lives had been lost by drowning. This is the lowest figure on record and probably the lowest since the settlement of Iceland. On the other hand traffic accidents are rising and amounted to fifteen deaths in 1947.

IN MAY a troupe of Norwegian actors from the National Theater in Oslo visited Reykjavik. They played "Rosmersholm" by Ibsen under the direction of Fru Agnes Mowinkel, who also acted. Among other actors can be mentioned Herr Oddvar and Fru Grieg. The play was a great success and was shown six times.

The Icelandic National Theater has been invited to Helsinki, where they will give a play called "The Pearly Gate"

by David Stefansson. This drama is built upon an old folktale about a faithful wife who was anxious about the salvation of her husband, so she caught his soul in a bag and carried it to Heaven after a number of very amusing tribulations. It will be given in Icelandic.

THE PLANTING of trees has always been close to the hearts of the Icelanders, since the natural tree covering was destroyed during the wood shortage of the Middle Ages.

This spring 130,000 small plants were sent by plane from Norway, and great hopes are connected with this shipment,

as the plants were grown in a climate about the same as in Iceland. During the war a considerable amount of seed from spruce and fir and other trees was collected in Alaska for the Chief Forester of Iceland. These seeds have sprouted well, and their growth has probably been faster than in Alaska, especially that of Sitka spruce.

THE UNITED STATES has sent a new Envoy to Iceland, the Hon. Richard P. Butrick, as a successor to Hon. W. Trimble, who has been in charge of the American Legation in Reykjavik for over two years.



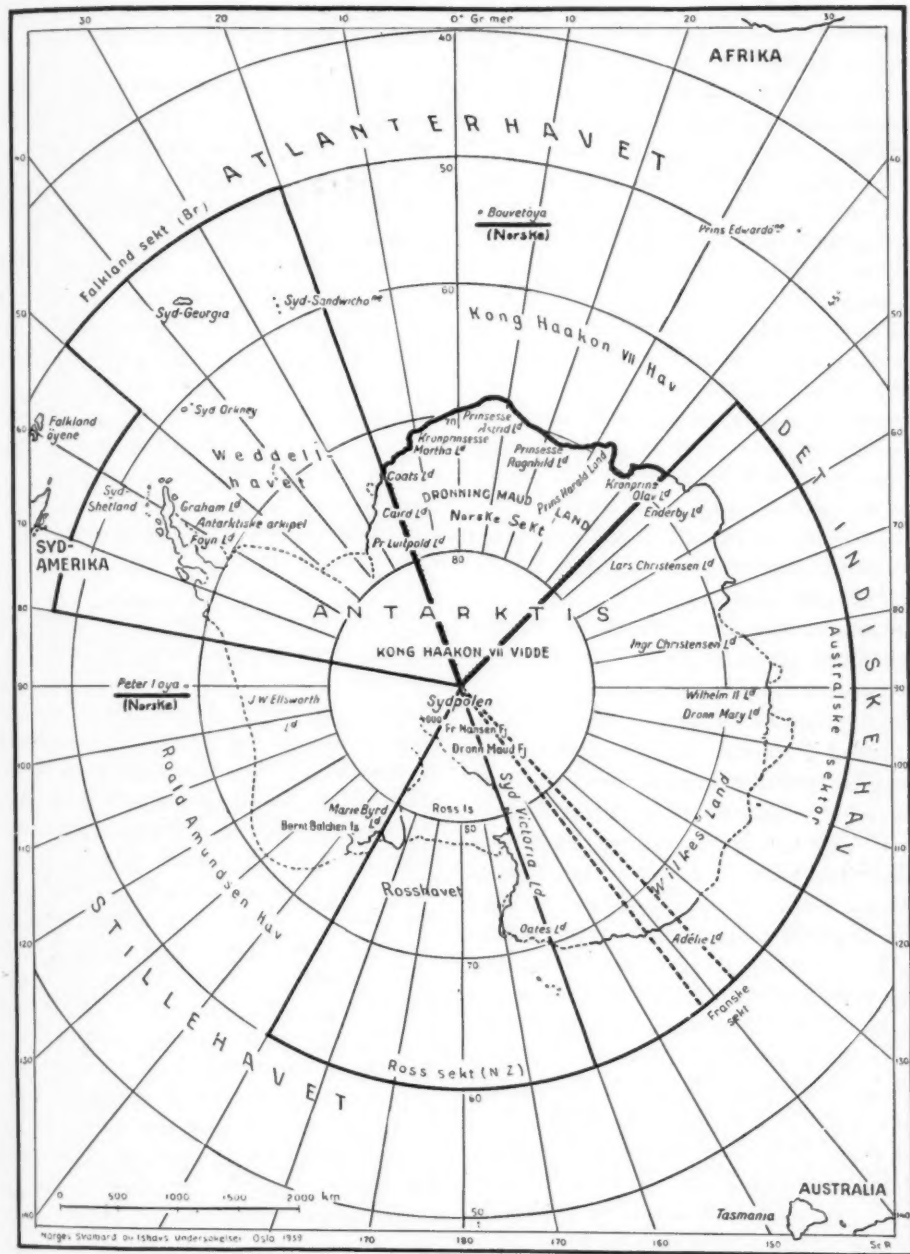
NORWAY

A GENERAL STIFFENING of Norwegian foreign policy was discernible during the first weeks of the second quarter. Projecting the broad implications inherent in the earlier statements voiced by Prime Minister Einar Gerhardsen in Fredrikstad and Stockholm, Norwegian Ambassador to the United States Wilhelm Morgenstierne, addressing the University of Wisconsin's Norway Week dinner in Madison on March 31, reaffirmed Norway's determination to take a solid stand against threats from any quarter. While noting that Norway now lives in understanding with all nations, the speaker declared that should the situation change, "we shall of course stand up against any future aggressor from wherever he might come." Several weeks later in Oslo on April 19, Foreign Minister Halvard M. Lange reasserted Norway's identity as a Western European democracy and predicted rejection of any eventual Russian bid for a bi-lateral military treaty. "There can not be the slightest

doubt that we are part of Western Europe, geographically, economically, and culturally, and that we are and will remain a Western European Democracy," affirmed the Foreign Minister. He further emphasized that while there were no indications predicting a Soviet proposal for a military pact, Norway's stand was being clarified in advance of possible Russian approaches. Norwegian participation under the Bevin Program was not indicated, though the possibility of future discussions involving closer cooperation with the Western Powers in the cultural and political fields, according to the Foreign Minister, was not excluded.

These significant statements all reiterated Norway's determination to retain its identity as a Western Democracy while at the same time calling for good relations and expanding economic ties with the USSR and Eastern European lands.

In line with these developments, the Norwegian Parliament on April 9 overrode an opposition vote by ten Communists and one Laborite and established a special committee for Defense and Foreign Affairs questions which would include no Communist members. Attribut-



NORWAY IN THE ANTARCTIC

A HISTORY OF NORWAY by Karen Larsen, Professor of History in St. Olaf College, is scheduled for publication by The American-Scandinavian Foundation and Princeton University Press on Nobel's Birthday, October 21, 1948

ing the move to loss of confidence in the Communists, Parliamentary President Fredrik Monsen noted that, "It will be to our country's advantage if all those who are not fully loyal are denied the right to participate in such confidential deliberations." By late June this body had confirmed disposition of the extraordinary Preparedness Grant appropriated by Parliament on March 16. Of one hundred million kroner (\$20,000,000), eighty-one million were ear-marked for military defenses, ten million for civilian defense, eight million for the police, and one million for storage expenses. All conscripts eligible for service during the coming budget year will serve for a full twelve months, and a portion of Brigade No. 482, recently returned from occupation service in Germany, was called up for recruit service from May 1.

Strong support for a Northern Defense Union was voiced by Prime Minister Gerhardsen speaking in Stockholm on May 9. "Cooperation in economic fields should be expanded," he observed, "and the question of cooperation in military affairs, too, has recently been raised in different quarters." The speaker suggested that it be determined whether or not a basis for cooperation exists. Later, on June 5, Foreign Minister Halvard M. Lange, speaking in Copenhagen, again made a strong case for coordinating the peace-time defenses of the three northern lands. "We in Norway," noted the speaker, "feel that developments in war technique during and following the last war have resulted in our occupying a very exposed position, strategically speaking. We therefore are of the opinion that it is correct to assume the realistic view that chances of keeping our country out of an eventual war are not particularly great." By June 21 Swedish Foreign Minister Östen Udén had made inquiries of the Norwegian and Danish Governments to determine implications of an active military cooperation

among the three lands. Approval of this initiative was voiced by the two countries.

TRI-NATIONAL COOPERATION of a more familiar sort was announced by "Foreningen Norden" organizations in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark in early April. Plans for a three-way children exchange among "friendship cities" in the three lands promised to be a large scale affair during the coming summer. According to the plan, cities in the three countries are joined with a city of similar size in each of the other lands with which they exchange visitors, information, journalists, etc. Norwegian children planned to leave in mid-summer for week-long visits in Sweden and Denmark, following which they were to return to Norway with their Swedish and Danish friends.

THE FIRST OF THREE new 23-foot stained glass windows was unveiled in the Swedish Church in Oslo—Margareta-kyrkan—in early April. Here at this same church during the hungry war years, thousands of Oslo youngsters were fed by the Swedish Relief Organization. Though the servings were free, the children would often leave a few precious pennies on the table after eating, which through the years have now grown to a fund totalling some \$12,000. This is now being used to beautify the Swedish Church as a gift from the grateful children of Oslo. Norway's gratitude for war-time and post-war aid was further expressed in a rousing response to the United Nations' Children's Appeal. During the course of the nationwide drive, a total of 10,000,000 Kr. were collected. The figure was far above earlier expectations, as the U.N. campaign followed closely on a similar drive which raised 13,000,000 Kr. for European Aid. Part of this amount has been allocated to a home for tubercular children, soon to be constructed near Holmestrand, Norway. It is planned to select two hundred ailing children from

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D.P. camps in Europe and bring them to the new Norwegian center for treatment.

ON MAY 1, the first of Norway's "Mercy Battalions" composed of five doctors and eleven nurses left Oslo for Lodz, Poland where they will begin vaccinating all children under eighteen years of age against tuberculosis. The group comprises five units, each of which will consist of one doctor, two nurses, and a chauffeur, and is the first Norwegian team to leave under the joint Scandinavian program to combat the spread of tuberculosis in southern and middle European lands. Under the over-all program, 50,000,000 children and teen-agers in eleven different lands are to be inoculated with BCG vaccine. Two million dollars from the U.N. Children's Aid Fund, plus 1,500,000 Kr. from the Norwegian European Relief Organization are supporting the vaccination project. At home, a total of over one million Norwegians—a third of the population—had been X-rayed and inoculated with BCG vaccine by late May.

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S ARRIVAL in Oslo on May 11 touched off a welcome demonstration second only to that extended King Haakon upon his triumphant homecoming following liberation. As the former British Prime Minister's welcome procession moved through the streets, boats in the harbor were drawn up in the familiar V-for-victory formation, and cheering crowds greeted him with hands raised in the V-symbol which he had made famous. The following day, Oslo University President Otto Lous Mohr conferred an Honorary Doctor's Degree upon the visiting Briton at ceremonies in the University Auditorium. During his four-day stay, Mr. Churchill was the guest of King Haakon at the Royal Palace in Oslo.

OSLO-BOUND by late June were 205 American college students who left New York aboard the "S. S. Marine Jumper"

on June 17. In all, a total of 251 young folk from 100 American colleges and universities attended the University of Oslo's second American Summer School which began on July 1st. They represented the largest single contingent of American college youth ever to leave the United States for study at a foreign University. Dr. Erling Christophersen, Cultural Attaché at the Norwegian Embassy in Washington, D.C., again directed the Summer School, with Mr. Norman Nordstrand, Dean of Men at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, and Mr. Phillip Boardman of the Norway-America Committee assisting.

HIGH POINTING PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE on the 1948 National Budget or Economic Policy Program on April 17, Norwegian Commerce Minister Erik Brofoss presented a review of Norway's present economic status, and held early reconstruction of the merchant fleet to be the key to Norway's present dollar problems. Despite population increases, noted the speaker, 1947 imports (excluding ships) were a mere 104 per cent of 1938, with imports of consumers' goods but 88 per cent of pre-war. Even these relatively modest figures, however, were termed greater than justified by the present exchange situation. Though import applications are being carefully screened, the 1948 payment deficit is estimated at 655,000,000 Kr. and imports should be at least 300,000,000 Kr. higher than provided under the 1948 National Budget. War-time merchant fleet losses are strongly reflected. The 1948 net fleet income will be a mere 880,000,000 Kr. against 1,500,000,000 Kr. in 1939, according to present estimates. Best prospects for export expansion were said to lie in the wood processing industries, but a rapid reconstruction and expansion of the merchant fleet was termed a prime necessity. "Within four years," predicted the speaker, "we can, by building our ships abroad,

increase our earning capacity by 500,000,000 Kr."

ON JUNE 14, Foreign Minister Halvard Lange predicted that tariff reductions following Norway's signature of the Geneva Tariff Agreement, approved by Parliament four days earlier, would tend to increase Norwegian exports to the United States. This, together with anticipated aid under the Marshall Plan was expected to ease the increasingly difficult foreign trade situation—depending as it does upon present bi-lateral trade agreements. "While it is true that goods are becoming more plentiful," observed the Foreign Minister, "exchange is becoming increasingly scarce. All lands are seeking to direct their export products to those countries which can pay in dollars." Foreign trade for the first quarter of 1948 showed an encouraging trend. Imports for the first three months totalled 674,000,000 Kr. with exports of 455,000,000 Kr. Similar figures for the same period last year were 629 and 307 million kroner. Increased exports to the United States had cut the trade balance deficit from 95 to 66,000,000 Kr., with U.S. canned fish purchases increasing from 4.5 to 12,000,000 Kr., paper from 1.4 to 7,700,000 Kr., and cod liver oil sales holding at 2,000,000 Kr. For the first time, Norway achieved an approximate trade balance with Britain during the first quarter with imports of 89,000,000 Kr. and exports of 86,000,000 Kr.

MID-APRIL FIGURES showed Norwegian vessels on order or building in foreign and domestic yards to total 492 vessels of 3,320,000 tons, including 124 tankers of 1,990,000 tons. Norwegian ship-owners and Government are joining forces to increase facilities for training specialists to man the new vessels. Through a well coordinated training program it is expected that the influx of trained personnel will in time keep pace with the tonnage increase.



SWEDEN

ON JUNE 16 ALL SWEDEN joined in wishing its beloved King a happy birthday. Despite his age of 90, the monarch was in good health and went through the jubilee program without any perceptible signs of fatigue. Having ascended to the throne on December 8, 1907, he has reigned more than forty years—longer than any other Swedish ruler in history, and is today the world's oldest monarch.

For the birthday Stockholm was bedecked with flags, wreaths, and garlands; thousands of people had come to the capital from all over the country. On the 15th Denmark's King Frederik IX and Queen Ingrid, who is King Gustaf's granddaughter, arrived on the royal yacht, "Danebrog," accompanied by their oldest granddaughter, Princess Margrethe, and dowager Queen Alexandrine. Other royal guests were Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha of Norway with their three children, and Prince Axel and Princess Margaretha of Denmark. In the evening King Frederik and Queen Ingrid gave a family dinner for King Gustaf on board the "Danebrog."

At ten o'clock in the morning of the 16th, King Gustaf received the felicitations of his family, and shortly afterward listened from a window to the singing by a choir of school children massed in the inner courtyard of the palace. At noon, members of the Cabinet, and representatives of the Riksdag, the Church, and the national defense, offered their respects. Later the monarch received the heads of the foreign missions and members of the court circle.

At three o'clock in the afternoon King Gustaf, accompanied by members of his family and the visiting royal guests, drove through the streets of Stockholm in open carriages, preceded by fore-riders and a

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troop of cavalry. The route took in not only parts of the central residential and business sections of the capital, but for the first time on a similar occasion included also the southern borough, or Söder. Everywhere, the sidewalks were packed with solid masses of people, waving flags and hats and shouting happy greetings to the King.

In the evening he was the host at a gala banquet at the Palace for members of his family, the visiting royal persons, and high civil and military dignitaries. After the dinner he acknowledged from a window the singing of student glee clubs and other choral societies, and the greetings of representatives of political and civic clubs and organizations from many parts of the country. Later the monarch made his appearance on the balcony facing the Norrbro bridge, which at that time was jammed with expectant people. When he stepped out on the balcony, which was heavily flood-lighted, a roar of cheers greeted his appearance; then the multitude broke spontaneously into the national anthem.

Swedish newspapers of every party paid warm tribute to the King. They praised his integrity and wisdom, his patriotism and diplomatic skill, which on many occasions have stood the country in good stead. His position both as a leader and servant of the people was emphasized. The great personal respect which the King enjoys, the editorials said, had been a unifying force, guiding public opinion.

THE FUTURE OF RATIONING in Sweden was discussed in June in a speech in Gävle, in the north, by Prime Minister Tage Erlander. He pointed out that there are several checks and controls which the Government does not consider it possible to relax, even if the situation in regard to foreign exchange and the supply of raw materials should improve. Among these are the controls imposed on agricultural

products, rents, and prices. "If there should be a choice between price increases and rationing, we prefer rationing," he said, adding that as soon as the shortages disappear, these consumption checks will be lifted. Sweden's social policy must be directed towards creating as high an employment level as possible. "In the choice between unemployment and rationing, we choose rationing without hesitation," he declared.

SWEDEN NOW HAS 100,000 FOREIGN RESIDENTS gainfully employed, but the Government will not import any more labor from abroad. The greatest part consists of workers from other Scandinavian countries, and refugees, principally from the Baltic states. The labor import sponsored by the Government is not large. From Italy have come some 1,100 men, which is about one half of what was originally estimated. The Sudeten Germans number 1,200, and the Hungarians, all of whom have been placed on the farms, do not exceed 750 workers.

THE SWEDISH AIR CORPS' new jet propelled fighter aircraft, designed and constructed by the Swedish Aircraft Company (SAAB), in Linköping, has been demonstrated for the press. Capable of attaining a speed of more than 625 miles an hour, it will be one of the fastest aircraft of its kind in the world. Known as J 29, it is equipped with a British De Havilland "Ghost" jet engine. The basic principle of the design has been to make the thin wing into a stiff, smooth shell with unbroken line, and to concentrate all the weight in the body. The air intake is centrally located in the nose of the plane, and the exhaust opening on the fuselage, toward the tail. The propelling unit is installed behind the cabin, which is pressurized. If parachuting becomes necessary, the cabin dome and the pilot's seat can be catapulted out of the plane.



The American-Swedish News Exchange, Inc.

FOUR GENERATIONS OF ROYALTY

King Gustaf V of Sweden, riding through the streets of Stockholm on his ninetieth birthday, June 16, 1948

A NEW INSTITUTE for medical research has been inaugurated in Stockholm. It is known as the Medical Nobel Institute, and has been created with funds donated by the Swedish Government, the Nobel Foundation, the Wallenberg Foundation, and the Rockefeller Foundation. The Institute consists of one department for biochemistry, one for cellular and one for neuro-physiological research.

THE SWEDISH SUBMARINE "Draken" recently completed a journey from Karlskrona, main naval base in southeasternmost Sweden, to Stockholm, a distance of 1,134 miles, traveling the entire time submerged. The trip took fourteen days. This is the first test in the Swedish Navy with

a so-called "Snorkel," a machine used by the Germans in the Second World War and later adopted by other navies. It consists of a breathing apparatus which enables a submarine to use its Diesel engines even when submerged. It will now become standard equipment on all Swedish submarines.

THE NUMBER of radio receiving sets in Sweden on April 1 this year was 1,980,785. Dr. Yngve Hugo, head of the Swedish Broadcasting Company, estimates that the two million mark will be passed later in the year.

THE MAJORITY of Swedes consider Communism undemocratic and believe that

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Communists are nationally unreliable, according to a Gallup poll published in *Dagens Nyheter*. Communism in Sweden was regarded as undemocratic by sixty-one per cent of those questioned and as democratic by ten per cent, while twenty-nine per cent had no opinion about the subject. Another question ran: "If Sweden were to become involved in a conflict with Russia, do you think that the Swedish Communists would then side with Sweden or with Russia?" "With Sweden," answered seventeen per cent; "with Russia," answered fifty-five per cent, while twenty-eight per cent did not express any view.

THE SURPLUS OF WOMEN in Sweden is rapidly diminishing, and nowadays it is only in the ages above fifty that there are more women than men. The reason for this is that the higher mortality among men has gradually declined. There is still a surplus of women in the cities, while among the agricultural population the women are in the minority in all age groups.

"THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES should form a unit, and a staunch unit," said Gustav Möller, Swedish Minister of Social Welfare, in a speech in Copenhagen on May 7. "We must open up new spheres of cooperation to show the world that we stand together firmly. Military cooperation among Sweden, Norway, and Denmark cannot and should not be delayed." He emphasized that it would be ridiculous to brand such cooperation as an expression of aggressiveness, since the Scandinavian countries all strive for peace and since their cooperation aims at adding to the understanding and unity among the nations. Mr. Möller spoke at a dinner in connection with the unveiling of a stone marker in honor of all Danes who lost their lives in the illegal arms and munitions traffic between Sweden and Denmark during the Nazi occupation of Den-

mark. In his capacity of Minister of the Swedish State Police, Mr. Möller gave official sanction to this traffic. In recognition of this aid to a brother country in need, the Danish Government bestowed upon Mr. Möller the country's highest civilian honor, the Service Medal in Gold.

NEARLY FOUR MILLION vials of penicillin, corresponding to 400 billion units and sufficient for Sweden's own requirements as well as for a certain export volume, are now being manufactured at the Swedish Kärnbolaget's penicillin factory at Hornsberg, outside Stockholm. Four years of labor lie behind the production, which has been going on for three months. The factory, which is selling penicillin at a price of less than one krona per vial, has cost several million kronor to build, and is the first of its kind in Sweden. The process of manufacture is based entirely on an American method. The fungus, known as Q 176, has been bred and refined in the United States.

THE POPULATION OF SWEDEN increased in 1947 by 78,000 to a total, on January 1 this year, of 6,842,046. The number of children born in Sweden in 1947 was 128,300, as against 131,800 in 1946, and 135,000 in 1944. However, while the excess of births over deaths dropped to 54,900, the figure is higher than the year 1933 when a surplus of only 15,500 was recorded.

MORE THAN FIFTEEN MILLION kronor's worth of motion picture theatre tickets were sold in Stockholm in 1947, as compared with 13.4 million kronor a year before.

RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS abroad have made it necessary to increase the activity of the Swedish anti-espionage police, states Minister of the Interior Eje Mossberg in a Government bill. Based on the suggestion of the Commissioner of the Swedish State Police, Mr. Mossberg is

asking the Riksdag for a grant for the next budget year of 2,890,000 kronor, as compared to 1,500,000 for the current year. Part of the money will be used to keep a systematic check on radio sending and receiving stations. It is also pointed out in the bill that the situation may develop in such a way that the security activity may have to be even further intensified. In such event, it should be permissible to exceed even the asked-for grant, so long as the Government agrees thereto.

ON JUNE 16, 1940, in an early stage of the German occupation of Norway, King Gustaf of Sweden sent a personal message to Hitler urging him not to depose King Haakon from his throne, but to use all possible moderation in relation to the Monarch, to Norway, and to its people. This was revealed by the publication on April 17 by the Foreign Office in Stockholm of a summary of an official Swedish White Paper.

Very soon after the hostilities in Norway had come to an end, on June 9, and King Haakon, Crown Prince Olav, and the Government had left Norway for Great Britain to carry on the fight against Nazi Germany, the Germans began to exert strong pressure on the members of the Storting who remained at home to demand the King's abdication and other sweeping changes in Norway's form of government. In the course of negotiations for this purpose, which began in Oslo June 12 with a number of Norwegians in prominent positions, it was urged by the Germans that the Storting should depose the King, the royal family, and the Government.

The first report to Stockholm by Baron Johan Beck-Friis, Swedish envoy to Norway, dealing with the German demands for King Haakon's abdication, was received by the Foreign Office June 15. The very next day King Gustaf dispatched his

appeal. No reply was received to this message, but Minister Beck-Friis privately informed some of the leading Norwegians of the King's action, and the news of the monarch's letter was a source of great cheer and satisfaction.

THE BERNADOTTE ARCHIVES in the small Italian town of Pontecorvo have been sold as waste paper and, having passed into the hands of a junk dealer, have been destroyed beyond recall, according to the Rome correspondent of *Dagens Nyheter*. He recently visited Pontecorvo, where the founder of the present Swedish royal family, Charles John Bernadotte, lived during the Napoleonic era. In the general confusion during the Allies' bombardment of the place, an enterprising person took the opportunity of collecting the papers from the archives in the Bishop's palace and the city hall. He sold them as waste paper for 14,000 lire, or not quite twenty-five dollars. When the authorities realized what had happened, it was too late to trace the documents, many of which were signed by the first Bernadotte.

THE CENTENNIAL of the birth of the great Swedish dramatist, August Strindberg, takes place January 22 next year. The date will be commemorated throughout the country, and his plays will be performed at many theatres. A special Strindberg stamp will also be issued.

AFTER EXTENSIVE EXPERIMENTS a new method of extracting phosphorus from iron ore has been developed at the Grängesberg Mining Company, in northern Sweden. The process consists in subjecting the ore to high concentration and removing the phosphorus so that it can be used in the Swedish iron works. The phosphorus is removed with the aid of acids, and the iron content is thereby increased to over seventy-one per cent.

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President Osborne in Scandinavia

Mr. Lithgow Osborne, President of The American-Scandinavian Foundation, together with Mrs. Osborne, sailed April 23 last for a two months' tour of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Iceland. They returned June 20 by air. In the following paragraphs, President Osborne gives a brief account of his trip with particular reference to the activities of the Foundation's Affiliates overseas.

SCANDINAVIAN JOURNEY: 1948

I have visited Scandinavia many times—officially as a diplomat; unofficially as a tourist; privately, as the husband of a Danish girl and father of three demi-Danish sons who had to be shown off to their grandparents. My first visit as President of The American-Scandinavian Foundation was indeed a strenuous one. This was due not only to the great number of people with whom I discussed the hopes and ambitions of the Foundation and its cooperating organizations, but to that irrepressible hospitality which, while it may take varying gustatory forms, is



Photo by J. Sigfrid Edström

*"A Happy Couple in Ancient Sweden"—
President and Mrs. Osborne inspecting a
Rune-stone near Västerås.*

as evident in Reykjavik as in Copenhagen and as inescapable in Oslo as in Stockholm. In none of the four countries can housekeeping be easy in the face of certain shortages; but a visiting fireman would never guess it.

I had a total of 17 days in Denmark, 13 in Sweden, 14 in Norway, and 4 in Iceland.

The main purposes of the trip were, of course, to discuss with all those who are interested or who might be interested, ways and means of making more effective the interchange of students and trainees and lecturers, and other possibilities for promoting closer friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and of Scandinavia.

Thanks primarily to devoted work of Henry Leach and others in the past, I found the prestige of A.S.F. satisfactorily high everywhere in Scandinavia.

In addition to those most directly concerned with the work of our affiliated organizations, I was graciously received by the sovereigns of Denmark and Norway, H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Sweden and H.E. the President of Iceland. I also conferred with the Foreign Ministers and Ministers of Education of all four countries and other ministers and heads of departments; with the Rektors of the Universities of Copenhagen, Stockholm, Upsala, and Oslo, and the Pro-Rektor of the University of Reykjavik and other leading educators; with representatives of the national federations of labor and more particularly, with those who are in charge of labor education; with representatives of the press; and with the chiefs of our diplomatic missions and their cultural affairs, officers who were without exception most helpful.

In Denmark, under the able leadership and direction of Viggo Carstensen, Copenhagen's foremost solicitor, and Mrs. Annette Jerrild, Danmark-Amerika Fondet is flourishing. The same applies to Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen under Sigfrid Ed-

ström, once head of ASEA and the uncrowned king of many phases of Swedish life, and the indefatigable Mrs. Heilborn.

In Norway, Norge-Amerika Foreningen has established a special Stipend Committee. Its work covers all activities connected with students and trainees. All other activities are under the direction of NAF's president, Dr. H. O. Christoffersen of the Mikkelsen Institute in Bergen, who was unfortunately absent from Norway during my visit. The work of the Stipend Committee is carried on with zeal and enthusiasm by Dr. Philip Boardman and Miss Tordis Iuell.

In Iceland, the Islenszk-Ameriska Félagid, which was organized in 1940, seems to have become completely inactive. I was told that no meetings have been held in recent years. However, nowhere did I find a keener interest in having students and trainees go to the United States or in receiving them. There is, therefore, good reason to hope that a revived I.A.F. or possibly a new cooperating organization with the same purposes will develop.

To the free interchange of students with Scandinavia, there is one serious threat—lack of dollar exchange. Happily, to a large extent it is still only a threat. In Denmark, Sweden, and Iceland, no properly qualified and sponsored student wishing to come to this country has been denied the necessary dollar "valuta." In Norway, the government has found it necessary to limit the dollars allocated for foreign study; but the limit seems like a generous one which will permit a reasonable number of Norwegian students to come or stay here. Clearly, no foreigner can properly try to tell the Scandinavian governments to what extent they should use their dollar exchange for students rather than for the raw materials, machinery, and food supplies which their economies so urgently need. An important secondary benefit of E.R.P. should be to ease the present intense competition for valuta.

One word as to interchanges of trainees or industrial fellows: there is a particularly lively interest in Scandinavia in such interchanges. For one thing, they provide a possibility for many to come to the United States who want to come and who would benefit by coming, but who do not want or do not have the academic standing to come as graduate students. Furthermore, the question of valuta arises only to a negligible extent in the case of trainees. It can almost be said that the demand in this field in Scandinavia is unlimited. I sincerely hope A.S.F. can find ways of meeting it.

Viking Fund Award

The Viking Fund in April awarded the Foundation a grant of \$5,000 to bring over a Scandinavian archaeologist and expert on runic inscriptions. It is hoped to have the Scandinavian expert present at the excavations around the Newport Tower this summer and to have him investigate other alleged early Norse remains in the United States and Canada. Indicative of the greatly increased interest in the question of where and when Norsemen explored the American continent is the fact that several investigations on Cape Cod have been planned which may turn up new evidence. The Committee on Newport Tower of the Society for American Archaeology suggested three Scandinavian archaeologists, of whom Professor Johannes Brøndsted has been chosen.

Professor Brøndsted is Professor of Archaeology at the University of Copenhagen and Director of the National Museum. He is a member of many scientific and archaeological societies and has written a number of books and articles on archaeology, particularly on ancient Denmark and the Viking period. He is expected to arrive in the United States in mid-August and to stay until about November.

Lectures

Professor Henning Friis, Visiting Professor to the New School for Social Research, was given a grant by the Foundation to enable him to travel to the coast this summer, in order to continue his studies in sociology. Professor Friis is Advisor in Social Science to the Danish Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs, General Secretary of the Government Youth Committee, and lecturer in sociology at the Danish School of Social Work. Professor Friis will lecture on current economic and social conditions in Denmark at the following universities: University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, University of Washington, and the University of California. Arrangements for these lectures were made through the Foundation. He will return to Denmark in February, 1949.

Broadcasting

In May, Mary Margaret McBride was invited by the Norwegian Government to fly to Norway and spend a week there, broadcasting from the new transmitter during the week of May 17. The Foundation was asked to provide someone who knew about Norway to stand by while the broadcasts were made and to pinch-hit in case atmospheric disturbances prevented transmission. Mr. Erik J. Friis, of the Foundation, took the assignment and together with Mr. Sven N. Oftedal of the Norwegian Information Service, and Mr. Egil Tresselt, of Scandinavian Airlines System, filled in on several occasions, describing Norway and the Norwegian national holiday.

New York Staff

Miss Elsie Jeppesen joined the New York staff in May, 1948. She was born in Detroit, Mich., of Danish parents. In her eleventh year, her father died and she and her mother returned to Denmark. In Den-

mark she attended business school and has held various secretarial positions. Her last position was with Danmark-Amerika Fondet, where she assisted Mrs. Jerrild in all the work of the office. She speaks and writes both Danish and English fluently.

Honorary Fellows 1948-1949

LAWRENCE ROGERS BLINKS—Professor of Biology at Stanford University and Director of Hopkins Marine Station. Dr. Blinks has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and will study the biochemical reactions, especially the photochemistry and enzyme relations, of the marine algal pigment phycoerythrin, in Sweden. Dr. Blinks received his B.S. degree from Harvard, cum laude, in 1923, his M.A. in 1925 and Ph.D. in 1926.

JOHN WILLCOX BROWN—Dartmouth College, A.B. cum laude 1937, Yale University School of Forestry, M.B. 1941, Mr. Brown is at present studying for his Ph.D. in forestry at Michigan University Graduate School. Mr. Brown is going to Sweden and Norway to study the role of forest land in the local economy of rural communities.

CHARLOTTE JOANNE ERICKSON—an Assistant in the History Department of Cornell University, Miss Erickson is working for a Ph.D. degree. She has received a Fellowship from the American Association of University Women and is going to Sweden to study the recruitment of Scandinavian immigrant labor by American industry since the Civil War. She is a graduate of Augustana College, B.A. 1945, and Cornell University, M.A. 1947.

EDITH C. JOHNSON—English Professor at Wellesley College. Miss Johnson will give a course of eight lectures at Uppsala University on "American Fiction of the Twentieth Century." She may also give some lectures at the University of Stock-

holm. Of Swedish descent, Miss Johnson is writing the biography of a Swedish immigrant (her grandfather) which she expects to have published this fall.

MRS. CLEMENT SMITH—Instructor in Labor Economics at Radcliffe College. Mrs. Smith is interested in furthering the cause of workers' education and has taught at the White Collar Workers' School and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hudson Shore Labor School. She will study the work being done in Sweden and Denmark in this field.

F. M. FRYXELL—Professor of Geology at Augustana College. Mr. Fryxell has just been awarded the 1948 Centennial Fellowship by Augustana College for the study of forestry and conservation practices in Scandinavia. He will attend the Biennial Conference of the International Council of Museums, UNESCO, in Paris at the end of June and in August the International Geological Congress in England and Wales. Mr. Fryxell will visit the Scandinavian countries between the two conferences and hopes to make on-the-ground studies of national parks, nature preserves, and forests.

NORMAN GERSH—Mr. Gersh has just graduated from Harvard University, B.A. cum laude. His special fields of interest are the Germanic and English languages, literature and history. He is entering the University of Uppsala in the fall and will stay in Sweden for at least three years working towards his doctorate degree.

DR. JOSEF A. KINDWALL—Medical Director of Milwaukee Sanitarium, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Marquette University Medical School. Dr. Kindwall will attend the International Congress on Mental Health in London in August and will visit Norway and Sweden

thereafter. In Oslo, he expects to visit Dikemark Sykehus to study psychiatry work there. In Sweden, he will spend several weeks at the Cytological Institute of Karolinska Institute studying some new work being done in cell-physiology. Dr. Kindwall is also interested in learning about the Swedish system of medical care.

ANGELENE D. HELLEBERG—Teacher of Home Economics at the University of Illinois. Miss Helleberg is of Danish descent and will visit Denmark this summer. She is especially interested in observing housing projects and home management teaching procedures.

WILLIAM A. HALSEY—architecture student (B.Arch. Harvard University 1948). Mr. Halsey has been awarded a fellowship from Harvard University to study the social and economic aspects of Scandinavian life as reflected in the design professions, with emphasis on architecture. He expects to stay mainly in Sweden for the next year, but will make numerous trips to Norway, Denmark, Holland, and Finland.

MR. AND MRS. DONALD MONSON—Mr. Monson is an architect for the City Planning Commission of Detroit and Mrs. Monson is in the Social Welfare Department of the City of Detroit. They will study cooperative housing in Sweden.

Former Fellows

DR. EWERT AABERG, Fellow from Sweden 1940-41, has returned to the United States to lecture on agriculture at North Park College, Chicago, Illinois, during July. In 1941, Dr. Aaberg was Research Assistant in Farm Crops and Botany at Iowa State College. In 1942, he became a postdoctorate fellow in Agronomy and Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin. He received his M.A. degree in

agriculture in October, 1945. During his stay here, he had several articles published: "Classification of Barley Varieties Grown in the U.S.A. and Canada in 1945" (Technical Bulletin, No. 907, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 1945) and "The Great Swedish Botanist—Linnaeus." The latter appeared in the National Horticultural Magazine, October, 1945. At present Dr. Aaberg is Docent at the Royal Agricultural College where he is head of the Crop Production Department. He has two sons, Ulf, 5 years, and Bo, 2 years.

MR. SVEN CARSTENSEN, Industrial Fellow from Denmark, 1927-1928, is manager of the A/S International Harvester Company, Copenhagen. Mr. Carstensen was one of the first Industrial Fellows or Trainees, as they are now called. He spent one year in the U.S. training with the International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois.

MR. NILS G. HORNER, Fellow from Sweden 1927-1928, is teaching Glacial and Pleistocene Geology at the University of Uppsala. His recent publications include, "Discussion on Detailed Sections in Quaternary Geology," 1947; "Kvarterarexkursionerna vid Nordiska Geologmötet i Norge 1948," 1948; "A Late-Glacial Specimen of *Lucioperca lucioperca*. A study of some Uppsala clay varves," 1948. Mr. Horner served as President of the Geological Society in Stockholm during 1941. During his stay in the United States, this Fellow studied geology at Harvard and soil mechanics at M.I.T.

MISS ELLEN-MARGRETHE SCHROEDER, Fellow from Denmark, 1936-37, who studied nursing education for eight months at Teachers College, Columbia University, is now Educational Director of Post-Graduate Nursing Education at the University of Aarhus.

MR. OLAF FALK, Fellow from Norway, 1927-28, is Director of Weights and Measures in Norway. While in the United States, Mr. Falk studied tool machinery at the Cincinnati Milling Machinery Company. Recent published articles include "New Instruments and Methods for Measuring of Streaming Medium and Velocity of Ship" which appeared in 1943, and "Appareil pour la mesure de la vitesse de l'eau, de la vapeur, de l'air et d'autres fluides," dated 1947. During the past year, Mr. Falk went to Switzerland to take part in special experiments in the measurement of velocity in canals.

MRS. SIGNE BERGENSTRAHLE SCHLACHTER, Fellow from Sweden, 1919-20, is working with the Library Advisors of the Central Board of Education. Mrs. Schlacter spent her year's stay in the United States as an undergraduate at Bryn Mawr College.

DR. SNORRE WOLFAHRT, Fellow from Sweden, 1937-38, is chief of the psychiatric clinic in Stockholm, docent in psychiatry, and chairman of the Section for Neurology and Psychiatry in the Swedish Medical Society. During the past year, he has published a series of papers on leucotomy, blood sugar reactions in mental patients and allied subjects. During his four months' visit to the United States, Dr. Wolfahrt visited leading psychiatrists and psychiatric clinics in the large eastern hospitals.

MISS THYRA ANDREN, Honorary Fellow from Norway 1945-1946, was initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary professional educational fraternity for women, along with Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, on June 24 at the Hotel Commodore. During the past six months, Miss Andren has been visiting schools with supervisors from the New York State Education Department. She has also

given many lectures on Norway, traveling as far as Ohio and Virginia.

EDUARD HENRI BULLERJAHN, Honorary Fellow to Sweden 1946-1947, has been awarded a gold medal by the Royal Academy of Arts in Stockholm for a project for a business and apartment building on Fifth Avenue, New York. This is the first time a gold medal has ever been given to a foreigner, and the first time the medal has been awarded since 1945. The medal was presented to him by the Crown Prince. Mr. Bullerjahn was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and studied at the University of Wisconsin and M.I.T. He was graduated from the latter institution in 1943 with the degree of Bachelor of Architecture, with honors.

Augustana Chapter

The first meeting of the school year last September took the form of a reception for Mr. Lithgow Osborne, who addressed the chapter on the work of the Foundation. At the November meeting Mr. Donald Rod related experiences and impressions from his tour of the Scandinavian countries as a traveling fellow of the American Library Association. In April Dr. Marshall Swan of The American-Swedish Historical Museum was the guest of the chapter. As usual the year's activities were climaxed by a dinner meeting on the evening of commencement day, which in keeping with the centennial observances had a special festive character, with Archbishop Eidem and other representatives of the Church of Sweden as guests of honor. The speaker of the evening was Carl Sandburg who had received an honorary degree at the convocation. The following were elected as officers for the year 1947-48:

Dr. Everett Arden, President
Mr. Mauritz Johnson, Vice-President
Mrs. Esther Albrecht, Secretary
Miss Mildred Carlson, Treasurer

Boston Chapter

April 30: This meeting took the form of a general reunion of present and past members, together with friends and guests. Under the leadership of Mr. Reinhold Swan, the entire group participated in the singing of the national anthems of the Scandinavian countries, as well as our own Star Spangled Banner.

The musical part of the program continued with the following: Mrs. Celestine Powers-Wihlborg, violinist, accompanied by Miss Agnes Olson, rendered a potpourri of selections. Miss Florence Anderson, contralto, formerly of the U.S. Legation at Stockholm, accompanied by Miss Elna Bodin, sang a group of Negro spirituals, as well as a Swedish classic. Then Mrs. Lila Newdick, our president, dressed in period costume, delighted her audience with a reading from *Gösta Berling's Saga* by Selma Lagerlöf and *The Portraits* by Anna Lenngren. The surprise of the evening came when a group of Swedish students at Harvard and neighboring colleges made a dramatic entrance and under the leadership of Mr. Sven Linnér, instructor of Swedish at Harvard, sang a group of Swedish student songs. A bounteous coffee table and general social hour brought this most enjoyable meeting to a close.

June 4: Dr. Phillip Mitchell, instructor of Danish and German at Harvard, gave a brilliant lecture on Ludvig Holberg, father of modern Scandinavian literature. Miss Anna Jansen, piano soloist and honorary member of the Forum, rendered a group of Scandinavian and French folk songs. The usual social hour and refreshments followed. The lecture was preceded by the annual business meeting, consisting of reports and the election of the following officers for the 1948-49 season:

President: Dr. Elizabeth Deichmann
 Vice-President: Mr. James Russell
 Corr. Secretary: Miss G. Eva Stromwall

Rec. Secretary: Miss Lidy Ostrom
 Treasurer: Miss Esther L. Gustafson

California Chapter

On May 4 the Norway University Chorus (*Kvindelige Studenters Sangforening*) gave a concert on the Berkeley Campus to a full house, including consular representatives of the Scandinavian countries. From the auditorium the singers went to a reception at the Town and Gown Club in their honor. The concert was sponsored by the University of California Extension Division.

Peter Guldbrandsen, Secretary of the Chapter, left on June 18 for a two-month visit to Denmark.

Chicago Chapter

The annual business meeting of the Chicago Chapter was held at a luncheon on May 14 in the Melchior Room of the Kungsholm Restaurant. Mr. Arne Kildal, Director of Libraries in the Ministry of Church and Education of the Norwegian Government, was guest of honor. Mr. Kildal has been for many years the Secretary General of the Foundation's affiliate in Norway and also of Normanns Forbundet. Dr. Harold C. Urey presided, and all officers were reelected. This was the last meeting of the season to be arranged for by Mrs. Helen Englund before leaving for Scandinavia in June. Mrs. Englund was awarded an administrative grant of \$1,600 from the Foundation for six months' study and travel in Scandinavia. During her absence, Mrs. Katherine Dixon Agar will direct the activities of the Chapter. She is a lawyer active in civic affairs.

Dana Chapter

Members of the Dana Chapter, following an old Danish custom of strolling through the woods, met on May 17 for an evening picnic in the forest tract back of

the Dana College campus. After leading in the singing of Scandinavian folk songs, Professor Paul C. Nyholm, president of the chapter, introduced Dr. Marie Weitse, who is returning to Denmark after a course of study at the Mayo Clinic where she was engaged in research in insulin, her specialty. She spoke briefly of her work and of her impressions of America.

Guest speaker of the evening was Prof. Antonio da Cruz, recently arrived from Portugal, and now head of the Department of Modern Languages at Dana College. His topic was "A Latin Views the Nordics." His sense of humor and his acute powers of observation, together with his years of teaching experience on three continents, made his an unforgettable lecture. "I was born and placed in a Portuguese cradle, but the cradle became too small. Although I still love my native land, I feel that in a sense I am a Nordic, for I have always admired your democratic ways, I have gloried in the works of your great men of letters, and now I have found at your Dana College something that I have been seeking all my life."

Light refreshments were served, and as the glow from the bonfire grew dimmer, the international group—Americans for the most part of Scandinavian ancestry, the guest from Denmark, and the friend from Portugal—walked back along the forest path.

New York Chapter

At the annual meeting the first Monday of June, Mr. Holger Lundbergh resigned

as vice-president of the Chapter after many years of service as an officer. Other officers were reelected. Mr. Birger Lagerlöf, representative in eastern United States of the Liquor Control of Sweden, was unanimously elected vice-president on a platform of enthusiastic Swedish support of the Foundation. The day before, Mr. Lagerlöf received the Knighthood of Vasa in recognition of his notable achievements as chairman of the Swedish Home for the Aged on Staten Island.

Santa Barbara Chapter

This chapter enjoyed a busy winter including the Nobel Dinner and other social events, one of which was attended by Robert Woods Bliss, former U.S. Minister to Sweden. Dr. Charles Jacobs became president of the chapter upon the resignation of The Honorable Hoffman Philip, former U.S. Minister to Norway. The Chapter organized a big Midsummer Festival with hopes of establishing a Santa Barbara County Scholarship, enlisting the general public as well as chapter members in enthusiastically and generously supporting this new project. A social evening was planned to honor Professor Henning Friis of Copenhagen who lectured at the University of California at Los Angeles this summer. With arrangements for the Nobel Dinner on October 21 still in the offing, the calendar for summer and early fall is complete.





Nordisk Tidende

NORWAY IN PITTSBURGH

Viewing the token of transfer of the Norwegian Classroom to the University of Pittsburgh. From left to right: Chancellor Rufus H. Fitzgerald, Miss Sigrid Thorsen, Miss Sigrid Moeller, Counsellor Hans Olav of the Norwegian Embassy, and Mr. Frederic Schaefer

SCANDINAVIANS IN AMERICA

On May 15, the Norwegian Room, one of the seventeen national classrooms of the Cathedral of Learning of America's skyscraper university, was presented by Mr. Frederic Schaefer, Honorary Chairman, in the name of the Norwegian Society of Pittsburgh, to Chancellor Rufus H. Fitzgerald of the University of Pittsburgh. Before the ceremony there were addresses by Hans Olav, counsellor of the Norwegian Embassy in Washington; Dr. Bryn J. Hovde, President of the New School for Social Research in New York and Dr. H. G. Leach, President Emeritus of The American-Scandinavian Foundation. Mrs. Wilhelm Morgenstierne, wife of the Norwegian Ambassador, represented her husband, who was prevented by illness from attending. Mrs. Katharine Schaefer Foy, pianist, gave a brilliant and moving recital of Grieg's "Sonata No. 3,"

in which the spirit and natural beauty of Norway seemed to unfold. She was accompanied by Miss Ruth Lyon, violinist.

An American-Scandinavian, Governor Earl Warren of California, has been nominated Vice-President of the United States by the Republican Party. His father was a Norwegian, his mother a Swede.

The Swedish Centenary of 1948 was celebrated in many states in addition to those on the Mississippi River. Our most distinguished visitors from Sweden were Prince Bertil and Archbishop Eidem. The Centenary will be recorded in the December issue of *THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW* by President Lawson of Upsala College.

Andreas Lindblom, director of the Nordisk Museum and Skansen in Stockholm, lectured on Swedish art last spring at the University of Michigan, Ohio State University, University of Nebraska, and Oberlin College.

The May Jamestown *Monitor* reminded its readers that Mayor Emeritus Samuel A. Carlson in 1908, in order to give minorities representation, appointed all three candidates for mayor whom he defeated to be members of his cabinet.

Adolph Burnett Benson, Emeritus Professor of German and Scandinavian at Yale University, was honored April 22 by a luncheon in New York, where he was presented with a decoration from the University of Lund.

William S. Knudsen, the greatest Danish-American industrialist, died in Detroit, April 27, at the age of 69. In an editorial *The New York Times* called him "the armorer of American victory in the greatest industrial war ever waged."

Carl Nielsen, research consultant of the Abbott Research Laboratories in Chicago, has been made a Knight of the Dannebrog in recognition of his services to medical and pharmaceutical sciences in Denmark.

As a reciprocal function of the Swedish Centenary of 1948, four American educators of Swedish heritage were invited to visit Sweden: Professor Reuben G. Gustavson, Dr. Howard Hanson, Dr. Ernst F. W. Alexanderson, and Professor John O. Christianson.

Mr. Ormond Rambo, Jr., of Philadelphia, President of the American-Swedish Historical Foundation and a descendant of the early Swedish colonists of the Delaware, on May 19 received the insignia of Knight of the North Star. The Foundation celebrated the Ninetieth Birthday of King Gustav V on June 16 by a Jubilee Ball.

Contemporary paintings of Denmark were exhibited June 7 to 19 in the Georg Jensen Galleries in New York. The landscapes were ingratiating, and the public was astonished both by the conservative technique and the modest prices. The most prized painting, "Shrimp Nets Drying," by Viggo Madsen, was offered for only \$800.

The New York Madrigal Society presented Karen Hasselriis, dramatic soprano, on May 1.

Arne Kildal, general secretary of Nordmanns-Forbundet made a lecture tour last spring of American libraries and library associations where he was welcomed as official counsellor of the public libraries of Norway. The trip was sponsored by The American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Dr. Frank G. Nelson, Professor of English at the University of Arkansas, an American who was teaching in Oslo University at the time of the German invasion and spent seven months in Møllergaten Prison, and after the war returned to Norway to establish the Anglo-American House, an out-of-town branch of the University, has been awarded the Norwegian Medal of St. Olav.

A daughter of Hans Olav, Counsellor of the Norwegian Embassy in Washington, is a student at the University of Arkansas.

Halldór Hermannsson's seventieth birthday, January 6, 1948, was signalized by a testimonial book issued by the National Library of Iceland. It includes essays by Jón Helgason, Sigfus Blöndal, Sigurður Nordal, Stefán Einarsson, and other international scholars.

Miss Leonette Neslund of Mentor, Minnesota, won a first prize in the jubilee essay contest of the Swedish-American line. A total of more than two thousand manuscripts were submitted coming from every state of the Union, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico and six contestants won round trips to Scandinavia. Hollywood artist Viveca Lindfors read Miss Neslund's story at the Swedish Pioneer Centennial banquet honoring Prince Bertil in New York on June 30. The title "Leather Hinges" is taken from the leather-hinged diary volume on which the story is based.

Dr. Elsa Brändström, "Angel of Siberia," wife of Robert Ulich, Professor

of Education in Harvard University, died in Cambridge, Massachusetts on March 4, ending a life of magnificent services to suffering humanity. Harvard Chapel gave a special service to her memory the Sunday following. Her portrait in mosaics is one of the historical figures in the wall of the Golden Hall in the Town Hall of Stockholm.

Professor Glenn T. Seaborg of the University of California, discoverer of several of the heavy elements, received the John Ericsson Gold Medal at the sixtieth anniversary dinner of the American Society of Swedish Engineers in New York, February 11. Dr. Alexandersson, former recipient of the same honor, received on this occasion the star of Commander of Nordstjernan Order. The President and the President Emeritus of the Foundation were among the speakers.

Rolf G. Westad has been elected president of The Norwegian-American Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Herman T. Asche, president for twenty-eight years, is honorary president.

Dr. Stanley T. Williams, Sterling Professor of American Literature in Yale University is giving a course of lectures in Uppsala University on great American authors of the nineteenth century. These lectures are on the recently created Göttesman Foundation.

Dr. Marshall W. S. Swan, Curator, has returned from another tour of cities interested in the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia. He was well received, for example, in Jamestown and Detroit. In March and April the museum exhibited oils by the Swedish painter Kurt Jungstedt.

Björn Collinder, Professor of Finno-Ugrian Languages in the University of Uppsala has lectured this past academic year in the United States at the universities of Indiana, Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and Minnesota. He will contribute a popular article about the Lapps for *THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW*.



The above photograph shows "The Fussing Man" by Ludvig Holberg televised by The Mount Vernon Players in Washington, D.C. from the text of *Four Plays by Holberg* published by The American-Scandinavian Foundation.

The Nobel Prize Treasury. Edited by Marshall McClintock. Doubleday. 1948. xvi + 612 pp. Price \$4.00.

This unique volume is selected and compiled from the works of authors who have received the Nobel prize in literature. All Nobel laureates in the field are represented, except George Bernard Shaw, who refused to be anthologized. Needless to say, it is a rare collection of distinguished writing, the best from many lands, and each selection, "uncondensed and complete in itself," is representative of the author's best. The editor confesses in the Foreword that making the final choices was a "grueling task," which we can well believe. His first list of writings which he wished to include, because he felt that they could not be omitted, "came to six volumes" the size of the final compilation. "The next winnowing brought it down to three volumes." Eventually a desperate process of elimination confined the material desired within the covers of one book.

The *Treasury* contains masterpieces not only by such well known international writers as Romain Rolland, Sigrid Undset, Thomas Mann, Sinclair Lewis, Rudyard Kipling, Selma Lagerlöf, and Anatole France, but by writers who, though not necessarily less distinguished, are in America less known, like Hermann Hesse, Luigi Pirandello, Grazia Deledda, Ladislav Reymont, Karl Gjellerup, Rudolf Eucken, and Frédéric Mistral. Forty-one authors from seventeen countries are represented by the highest form of literary enter-

tainment, not only poetry, drama, and fiction, but also religion, history, and philosophy. Never before has so much diversity of thought, imagination, originality, satire, realism, idealism, and beauty, been concentrated in one volume. Since it is of international scope and import, the reader will be able to make interesting comparisons between the Muses of the different countries. But much more significant will be his discovery that genius is more universal than he imagined; that love and hatred, beauty and ugliness, poverty and riches, peace and war can be artistically described almost anywhere, depending on background circumstances and the ability of certain individuals. In literature much depends on emphasis and style. In the present volume the reader will experience a profound reaction from such choice examples as Deledda's "The Shoes," Reymont's "Death," and Jensen's "Ann and the Cow." The American prize winners—Eugene O'Neill, Pearl Buck, and Sinclair Lewis—are well represented.

In his Foreword the editor describes and reviews the Nobel literary awards to date. He finds some prejudice against Russian authors, but discovers no disturbing criticism concerning most of the Swedish Academy's decisions. The "suggestion of Scandinavian favoritism seems to hold little water." In fact, Scandinavians like Ibsen and George Brandes might have been favored but were not. McClintock does not mention Strindberg (d.1912). Nor does he dwell on the possibility that the Academy in the early days probably adhered more literally to the provisions of the Nobel will, which stipulated that the awards in question should be based on creations of an "idealistic tendency." The Academicians of 1905, let us say, would hardly have called Brandes or Strindberg "idealistic." It is perhaps fortunate that later members of the Academy have broadened the term.

ADOLPH B. BENSON

Finland and World War II 1939-1944. Edited by John H. Wuorinen. *Ronald Press*. 1948. 4 maps. 228 pp. Price \$3.50.

The scarcity of literature and source material available in English on Finnish-Russian relations during the years of World War II is to a great extent alleviated by the present volume. It presents a forthright and detailed account of the diplomatic relations between Finland and her big neighbor to the East, and also the other countries that took part in this Northern tragedy, notably Sweden and Germany.

The original manuscript was prepared in Finland by an anonymous author, or authors, who apparently had access to the original documents, or perhaps actually participated in the diplomatic negotiations. The papers were translated and edited by Professor John H. Wuorinen of Columbia University, who has also supplied the volume with a valuable introduction containing a short outline of Finland's

history and her economic and social developments before 1939.

Finland's foreign policy, a policy of neutrality and peace, is briefly reviewed, and the aims and actions of the Finnish government during the early months of World War II are discussed and evaluated. Russia's exorbitant demands and brutal attack appear in retrospect as harbingers of a reborn militant imperialism which hardly seems to have been toned down in the postwar era. New light is thrown on the Winter War of 1939-1940, Finnish-Soviet relations during the Moscow Peace, Finland's fight on the side of Germany, the armistice and the preliminary peace of 1944, as these events pass in review.

One of the conclusions arrived at after reading this study is that Finland's only offense in regard to war guilt was being small and located between two great powers. The policy of the Finnish government during these years was one prescribed by necessity; at each political and military juncture the nation's leaders were quite obviously compelled to choose the lesser of two evils. The claim is made that the reparations payments decided on in the Treaty of Peace are much too high for the internal economy of Finland; if the reparations clauses of the treaty are not reduced the Finns will become economic serfs of the Soviets, who, as recent developments have amply shown, do not hesitate to add political shackles to economic ones.

It seems manifest that Professor Wuorinen and the Ronald Press Company have performed a great service to Finland in making this study available to American students and observers of international relations in Northern Europe.

ERIK J. FRIIS

The Gospel of Suffering and the Lilies of the Field. By Søren Kierkegaard. Translated from the Danish by David F. and Lillian Marvin Swenson. *Augsburg Publishing House*. 1948. 236 pp. Price \$2.75.

These "Discourses" add another volume to the impressive list of Kierkegaard translations. As pointed out in the preface they belong to the second and religious portion of Kierkegaard's writings. In the first period, ending in 1846 with the publication of the *Concluding Unscientific Postscript*, he had dealt mainly with man's inner struggle. After 1847, in his *Edifying Discourses in Various Spirits* he took up the conflicts imposed from without on a Christian in pursuit of his duty. The first section has been translated by Professor Steere under the title of *Purity of Heart*. The remaining two sections are now presented in a faithful and living translation that carries Kierkegaard's great message of absolute Christianity, absolute faith, and denial of self. His religious passion is compellingly expressed through his literary and dialectic genius, making the reading of these discourses (he purposely avoids calling them

sermons) an experience of the highest order. In *The Lilies of the Field* his gift of poetic imagery enhances the spiritual message. Kierkegaard is curiously modern; reading him, it is hard to realize that this was written a century ago. His Christian exhortation to put spirit above matter should be a beacon to the bewildered humanity of 1948.

GERDA M. ANDERSEN

A Reader in General Anthropology. Carleton S. Coon. *Holt*. 1948. 624 pp. Price \$3.90.

This frank and robust reader will jolt some historians and philologists who discard written records when they are suspicious of dates, spellings, and the intrusion of folklore. Perhaps anthropology is a more vigorous science than history. The anthropologist is more ready to accept documentation *in toto* because it gives an overall true picture of human behavior. This reader records six levels of human society, from the primitive "gleaners" of the American desert to the citizens of the Empire of Marcus Aurelius. Some of the passages are excerpts of trained anthropologists; some are diaries of contemporary observers; some are loans from unpublished manuscripts. All are equally fascinating reading for the general public as well as the student: Rasmussen on the Eskimos, Ibn Fadlan on our boisterous Swedish forebears in Russia, Turi on the Lapps, Bernal Diaz on the Aztecs, Malinowski on the Trobriands. There is a poignant chapter on the social behavior of tenth-century Icelanders. The editor, who is Professor of Anthropology in Harvard University, connects each passage with the behavior of peoples on the opposite side of the planet at the same social level. There is an explanation of why the Aztecs at a stage of civilization that elsewhere had discarded human sacrifice—the fifth level—excelled in the elaboration of human sacrifice. They had no sheep, pigs, cows, or horses to sacrifice. The largest animals available, except man, were dogs and turkeys.

H. G. LEACH

Stokers' Mess. By Arne Skouen. Translated from the Norwegian by Joran Birke-land. *Knopf*. 1948. 237 pp. Price \$2.75.

This captivating All-Scandinavia prize novel about the growing-pains of a stokers' messboy, Einar, on board a Norwegian freighter at anchor in Réunion is written in a style that holds you in its grip. During the war years the author was head of the Norwegian Information Service in New York, a resistance man and former sailor. This book is not about war except in its perennial form of human rivalry. In this case two crews are jockeying for prestige with the berserk-like fights and fisticuffs this involves. Then, in a minor key, there is the tug-of-war going on in Einar's soul between his wishful dreaming, his mighty accomplishments in the realm of phantasy, and his desire to shine as an authentic personality in the strange circle of shipmates with whom fate has surrounded him.

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The heroine of this delightful story of Swedish-American family life is Mama, who is devoted to the Salvation Army. The book is full of fresh color—the color of Mama's native Sweden a generation ago, of old-world customs transferred to America, and of the Salvation Army way of life, with its marching and singing and vigorous assaults upon sin. And the problems of Mama's American daughters are treated with sympathy and delicate humor.

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Shades of Peer Gynt, as Einar tells himself and the others tall tales on the scorching beach in the glaring sun or in the dark tropical night, where fumes of rum and rat-poison mingle! The story develops into a huge drinking-bout and a fantastic brawl, with native girls and an invasion of warehouse rats added for good measure. Men and rats guzzle rum and pass out. But Stokers' Mess keeps his head and conquers his own soul; he achieves a real relationship to his fellowmen, old and young; he serves the others and forgets himself. And when you close the book you feel that Einar has passed his tests and earned his diploma.

GERDA M. ANDERSEN

Dark is the Mirror. By William Kinsey. Houghton Mifflin. 1948. 306 pp. Price \$3.00.

This is the story of young Doctor Poorjohn, an overworked American chemist who travels to Stockholm apparently to avoid a nervous breakdown and of his adventures, which are mostly mental.

In Sweden he meets many kinds of people who are universally kind and understanding, although one can hardly imagine why, for our hero is selfish and introspective and his desultory search for the Meaning of Life and the Soul is of slight concern. The love interest and conflict are provided by another nervous type, Ruth, who is half an American Bates and half a Swedish af Tellerstam; eventually they marry to provide an ostensibly happy ending to the book. All the characters are shadowy phantoms, and the symbolism, of which there is a great deal, can best be described as murky.

Readers who have been in Sweden will recognize with pleasure various place names and some of the customs and ceremonies described. The rather stilted style and staccato sentences beg the questions whether Mr. Kinsey did not write his book in Swedish originally and, if so, why he bothered to translate it.

PENELOPE MARSH

Marching Bonnet. By Astrid Valley. Macmillan. 1948. 148 pp. Price \$2.50.

The greatest virtue of Miss Valley's book is perhaps its simplicity, for she has written a simple tale about simple folk. The reader is given a clear and entertaining picture of one phase of Swedish life, first in Sweden and then in the United States. We follow the career of Mama, the central character, from her youth in Sweden where her fanatic interest in the Salvation Army and its ideals is born, through her emigration and marriage, to a later period of her life, where we leave her with two devoted daughters who, in turn, have broken away from the traditions of Sweden and become American both in thought and spirit.

To accomplish her literary purpose Miss Valley has adopted a technique and approach reminiscent of Kathryn Forbes in *Mama's*

Bank Account. In both books the narrative is related in retrospect by a daughter; in both the strong character of the mother dominates the family; and, finally, both show a contrast between the ideals of the Old World and the New.

Marching Bonnet is peopled with interesting and diverse characters, all worth knowing. Some of them, such as Aunt Ella and Uncle Olle, are warm and lovable—because they have human failings. And Father, though something of a prig as a young man, evolves into a human being whose death we genuinely regret. But Mama is quite different from those about her. We admire rather than love this strong woman whose belief in the Salvation Army surpasses all other interests in life. It is regrettable that she so rarely shows sufficient warmth and pliability to make her really human. For, though we respect her adherence to a cause, she is too one-sided to be truly convincing. Miss Valley's first novel is a pleasing story indicative of better things to come.

JOHN L. BRADLEY

Ibsen the Norwegian. A Revaluation by M. C. Bradbrook. Macmillan. 1948. 150 pp. Price \$2.75.

Miss Bradbrook, who is a Fellow of Girton and a Lecturer in English at Cambridge, has added a stimulating and scholarly study to the many that have been written on the life and works of Ibsen. Despite the slimness of the book, it contains a wealth of exciting material, and the author's personal deductions and opinions prove not only that she has delved deeply and with great discrimination into the mass of material on the great poet and dramatist available in many languages; it gives evidence also of her intimate knowledge of the writings of other European authors of Ibsen's time. We find him, therefore, silhouetted against a vivid contemporary tapestry on which are delineated not only men and women of letters, but also literary and political trends, which together form a fascinating picture.

Miss Bradbrook follows Ibsen's life from his childhood to his last years in Oslo and divides his dramatic production into three main groups, corresponding to the most important phases of his life: his early youth in Oslo, his thirty years of lonely wanderings across the Continent during his voluntary exile, and the ultimate return to his beloved Norway. She emphasizes the fact that Ibsen first considered himself a poet who turned to the medium of the drama only after painful renunciation of verse.

This splendid little book, provocative and informative, written with grace and wisdom, contains the following analysis of Ibsen's style and his means of constructing a play. It is one of the most trenchant and accurate estimates I have ever read: "Ibsen's growing power as a dramatist is found not in the problems nor in the characters, but in the detail,

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in the new method of construction by means of interplay. It is the sum of these tiny links which really makes the structure. The play is built up, not hewn out. It has the firmness, not of plate armour, but of chain mail."

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

Word Business. By Holger Lundbergh. Bonnier. 1948. 87 pp. Price \$2.00.

Mr. Lundbergh modestly describes his art as "this grand game of words," and in the ensuing pages he plays the game dexterously, with gentle sentiment and homely image, with humor and sometimes with imagination, but seldom does he achieve the depth or height of what one can honestly call a "poem." The very facility of his expression, its lack of originality of form or freshness of image leave the little verses on the page. Almost never do they take wing, or rise up to startle and delight the reader. The humorous verses on the foibles of men and city life are among the best.

However, since he has labeled them himself in all honesty, perhaps we should not be too critical, but take them as they are meant: the rhymed expressions of a sensitive and whimsical personality who knows a good deal about "Word Business" and therefore differentiates it from the "divine excitement" that is poetry.

KATHERINE GARRISON CHAPIN

Modern Swedish Poems. In the original Swedish with English translations. By

Martin S. Allwood and others. *Augustana Book Concern*. 1948. 80 pp. Price \$0.60.

It has been said, and with truth, that we are all anthologists at heart. For better or for worse we itch to cut from or add to any collection of verse that includes the works of many poets. I have that feeling about the present volume. Slim though it is, it does contain some very fine examples of the writings of several of Sweden's best known and some not so well known poets. However, in the case of Hjalmar Gullberg, Artur Lundkvist, and Nils Ferlin, I would have selected more significant examples than those found here. It may also be argued whether one or two of the names toward the end of the book might not as well have been left out, since they do not, at least to my mind, add to the significance or stature of the anthology. These are my personal quarrels, a matter of choice that varies with each reader.

So far as the translations are concerned, the collaborators have done an eager, but spotty job. In some cases it is inspired and mechanically admirable. In others it would appear as if a little more attention and thought would have assured better results. Here and there certain rather unnecessary liberties have been taken with the original which do not strengthen the spiritual meaning of the poem nor make its rendition in English more enjoyable or convincing.

On the whole, however, we must heartily welcome *Modern Swedish Poems*. It is indeed

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high time that some of the contemporary Swedish writers of lyric and free verse are brought to the attention of an American audience. Martin Allwood, a zealous, versatile, and prolific writer with a fund of knowledge and a sense of proportion that only occasionally slips, should be congratulated on his honest effort. It is to be hoped that he will try his hand at this sort of work soon again. In fact, he has on the fire a Twentieth Century Nordic Anthology, a heroic undertaking, well suited to his indefatigable and searching spirit. Carefully edited and translated, it ought to prove a work of importance.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

Iceland, New World Outpost. By Agnes Rothery. *Viking Press*. 1948. vii + 214 pp. 16 pp. of photogravures. Price \$3.75.

Mrs. Rothery is an experienced writer of travel books who has made the Scandinavian countries the special domain of her reporting. With this book on Iceland she completes her task. Iceland in her own words is "the delight of geologists, the inspiration of painters, the acid test of automobiles, and the downfall of otherwise rational writers of prose." In spite of that she seems to have mastered her subject in all its multitudinous aspects: the changeable weather, the ice and fire, the green sheep pastures, the billowy fish pastures, the medieval farming, the ultramodern fisheries, the flourishing cooperatives, the idyllic town of Akureyri, the booming capital, Reykjavík, and the enormous airport of Keflavík, link between two continents, and bond of friendship (or eventual bone of contention) between Iceland and America.

She also does her best in describing the individualistic and independent Iclander, and with her American background she has no trouble in seeing his old democratic traits in modern guise. She even resolutely attacks the barrier of language and poetic form, trying to give her readers an idea of the wild growths cultivated by the Icelanders for a thousand years in these fields. But though she knows and admits that the Iclander of today cannot very well be understood apart from his Eddas and Sagas, the modern aspects of the society, the social security, the modern way of bringing up children appeal more directly to her.

Space is lacking to do justice to this interesting book. It is a good book in its field and can be recommended to all interested in Iceland of today.

STEFÁN EINARSSON

So You're Going to Scandinavia! By Clara E. Laughlin. *Houghton Mifflin*. 1948. 469 pp. Price \$4.00.

It is now eleven years since Clara Laughlin brought out her volume about Scandinavia, one of a series of similar cozy and authoritative guide books which she first began to offer a travel-hungry public as far back as two decades. Since then the author has passed

away, but her soul goes, indeed, marching on, and the travel bureau she founded is as buzzing with activity as it was in her life-time.

In this, a completely revised edition, brought entirely up to date, her bright and gallant spirit illumines every page, and though time tables and hotel prices have been altered, the style is the same hearty and eager one. She remains, in print, as inquisitive and indefatigable as ever.

In addition to a preface by Mary Clara Laughlin, the managers of the Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian travel bureaus in New York contribute their own forewords to their respective sections of this attractive volume. It comes to us with the stamp of their approval. What more can we ask for than a lively and colorful travelogue with every last fact and figure double-checked?

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

In Norway. By Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen. *Viking*. 1948. 159 pp. Price \$3.00.

Here is a simple, warm, living book on Norway, a pleasant vehicle for giving youngsters a lesson in geography and history. Indeed all age groups should enjoy dipping into it, for the author has imbued it with her own love and enthusiasm for the land of her ancestors. Along with topographical descriptions and a brief historic survey go Norse mythology and stories of the Vikings, including an account of Leif the Lucky's discovery of America. The life of Fridtjof Nansen as an arctic explorer and a humanitarian, faced with the tremendous task of helping millions of refugees after World War I is vividly told. One wants to quote him today when to those who wailed "It can't be done!" he replied "There is always a way to do things that must be done." In the author's sympathetic company we visit the mountains, woods, and streams, the sea, the lighthouses, and the land of the midnight sun. We get a good look at the Norwegian people, independent and sturdy, in their homes, at work and at play, governing themselves through their free institutions. A chapter on the destruction of the war years and the reconstruction so energetically undertaken by the Norwegians ends this personally conducted tour. The line drawings by Eyvind Earle make a pleasant addition to a delightful book.

GERDA M. ANDERSEN

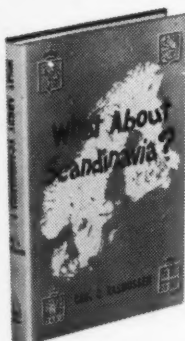
What About Scandinavia? By Carl C. Rasmussen. *Muhlenberg Press*. 1948. 194 pp. Price \$2.25.

This is a thoughtful and instructive document about the present-day status of the Lutheran churches in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland, written with insight by an American theologian who has twice served as president of a synod in the United States. Dr. Rasmussen, of Scandinavian parentage, is at present Professor of Systematic Theology at

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Dr. Rasmussen, an American of Scandinavian parentage, is professor of systematic theology at the Gettysburg Theological Seminary. He has studied in the United States and Denmark and has traveled widely in all of the Scandinavian countries.

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Gettysburg Theological Seminary. He was earlier pastor of Luther Place Memorial Church in Washington, D.C.

In four exhaustive chapters, one devoted to each of the countries under observation, the author deals with every angle and manifestation of the Lutheran Church in the North, its clergy, ritual, ordination, mission service, special religious festivals, pensions of ministers, building funds, and the relation of the pastors to the legislative bodies, the congregations, and the man in the street.

A slim book, it holds nevertheless a fund of invaluable information for the layman as well as the theological student. The different organizations of the churches in the four countries are clearly and attractively described. Dr. Rasmussen is of the opinion that the Church in Norway came out of the ordeal of World War II triumphantly. He does not, however, view with alarm the inroads of materialism in the other countries but regards them only as temporary flurries, which are unable to uproot or in the long run even seriously shake the strong and harmonious growth of religion in all Scandinavia.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

Scandinavian Cookery for Americans. By Florence Brobeck and Monika Kjellberg. Little, Brown. 1948. 341 pp. Price \$3.00.

Waddling to my typewriter after following certain instructions in this book, I can find no words of praise adequate to convey my grateful appreciation to Florence Brobeck and Monika Kjellberg for compiling such an appealing publication. Scandinavian appetizers have long been an American favorite; it is pleasing to be made more aware of the soups, fish, meats, poultry, salads, and desserts, all in the Scandinavian manner, which follow the appetizers.

The authors have planned their book thoughtfully and have contrived it with the purpose of giving the housewife the minimum of trouble in preparation. And, as the title indicates, the recipes include dishes from Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark. In addition, each recipe is clear and concise, and a sizable concluding section of the book is devoted to special dishes of famous people and places. The index is given both in Scandinavian and English. This book should be part of every kitchen "library." Used judiciously it will restore harmony to many a household; to the gourmet and non-gourmet alike—will bring untold gastronomical delights.

JOHN L. BRADLEY

American-Scandinavian Diplomatic Relations, 1776-1876. By C. Stewart Peterson. Multigraphed. Distributed by the author. Box 611. Baltimore, Maryland. 1948. 92 pp.

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What are relations among countries but relations among peoples? This becomes strikingly evident on reading Mr. Peterson's chronologically tabulated account of what American Ministers to Sweden, Norway, and Denmark reported back to the State Department in Washington during the first century of the Republic. Next to France, Sweden was the first country in the world to recognize the newborn nation. This step was confirmed in a treaty of "amity and commerce," signed in Paris by Benjamin Franklin and the Swedish Minister to France, Count Creutz.

"Amity and commerce" are two words that describe admirably the incidents that make up this compilation. They are almost all marked by tolerance and understanding; they give, in effect, the impression of two persons taking up a series of vital as well as trivial questions, determined to find a mutually happy solution. On rare occasions the voices become momentarily strident, only to sink again to a conversational level.

Much, indeed, is trivia. Much is of great importance—not the least the matter of the Swedish immigration to the United States. In clipped sentences, resembling newspaper headlines, the volume provides a fascinating historic panorama. Its appearance at this time, during the Swedish Pioneer Centennial celebration, is particularly fortunate. It is regrettable that the proofreading seems to have been done in great haste or by someone unfamiliar with Swedish names. At times it is almost impossible to decide what place or person is intended.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

The Road to Santa Fe. By Gunhild Tegen. Authorized translation from the Swedish by Llewellyn Jones. *The Dierkes Press*. 1947. 126 pp. Price \$2.00.

Jan Pqrstuv, a sensitive young author with numerous manuscripts, scorned by New York publishers, under his arm and disillusioned as to the receptiveness of the American people to envelop the thought and philosophy of those from other countries, finds himself seeking peace and consolation in New Mexico. A chance comment from an acquaintance suggested the quiet solitude of the southwest, and with his finances and morale at low ebb Jan makes this last attempt to renew his faith in man.

While living in this wholesome, tranquil environment he absorbs and assimilates the philosophy of the Indians which unwittingly penetrates his writings. They are now hailed as great by those who previously scorned them. But on leaving the serenity and peacefulness of the surroundings that gave him strength he is unable to adapt himself to the realistic world about him. We are left with a feeling that to gain happiness through our everyday associations is of more worth than the struggle to assume greatness.

M.B.A.

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
FOR THE SWEDISH PIONEER CENTENNIAL	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE SWEDISH PIONEER CENTENNIAL. By Evald Benjamin Lawson.	
Two illustrations	305
CHRISTMAS TIDE. A poem. By Signhild V. Gustafson	312
AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY THEATRE. By Holger Lundbergh.	
Four illustrations	313
LUCIA. A poem. By Holger Lundbergh	318
RAGNAR SOHLMAN 1870-1948. By Holger Lundbergh. One illustration	319
ALDUS CHAPIN HIGGINS. One illustration	320
NORWEGIAN SILVER, CONTEMPORARY. By Sonya Loftness.	
Five illustrations	321
A MODERN RUNIC STAVE. Four illustrations	325
SPOT NEWS FROM "VINLAND THE GOOD." An Editorial.	
One illustration	327
NEWS FROM ANCIENT DENMARK. By Johannes Brøndsted.	
Fifteen illustrations	330
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN POST-WAR SCANDINAVIA.	
By Bryn J. Hovde	342
BOOKS FOR AMERICAN LIBRARIES. 1947 Selections.	
Denmark, Norway, Sweden	347
THE QUARTER'S HISTORY. Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden.	
Nine illustrations	352
SCANDINAVIANS IN AMERICA	367
THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION. Four illustrations	368
BOOKS	373



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